

# Progress in U.S. Tsunami Forecast



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Seattle, WA

# Tsunami Forecast



## Real-time:

- Event-specific
- Real-time event assessment
- Real-time impact assessment  
before tsunami arrival

## Long-term:

- Site-specific
- Probable Maximum Tsunami
- Multiple scenarios for PTHA
- Comprehensive Hazard Assessment

# Tsunami Forecast

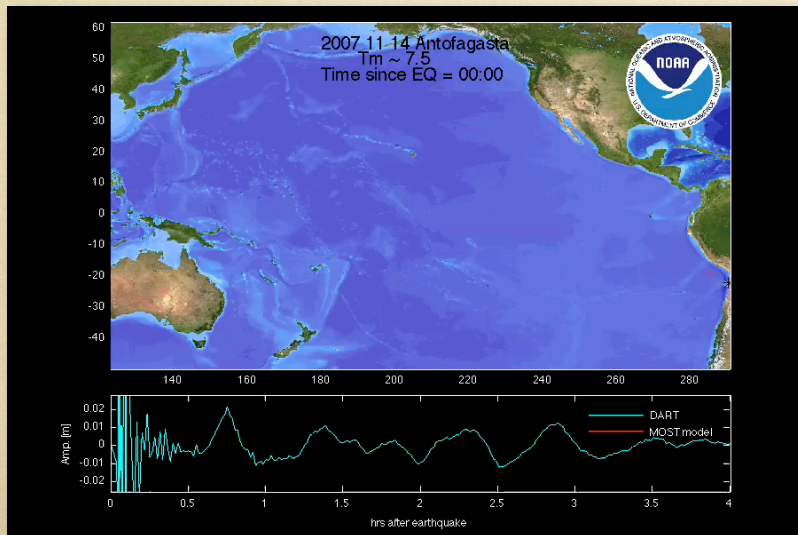


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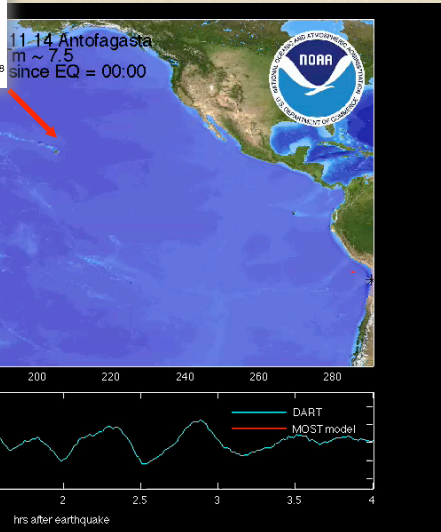
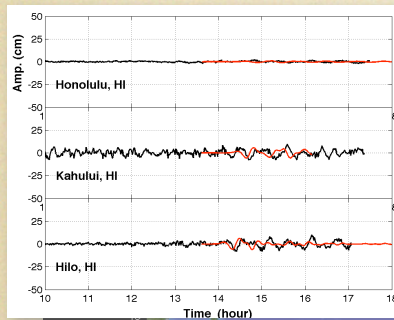


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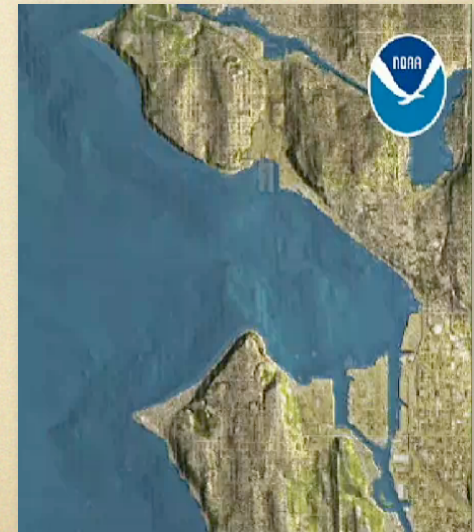
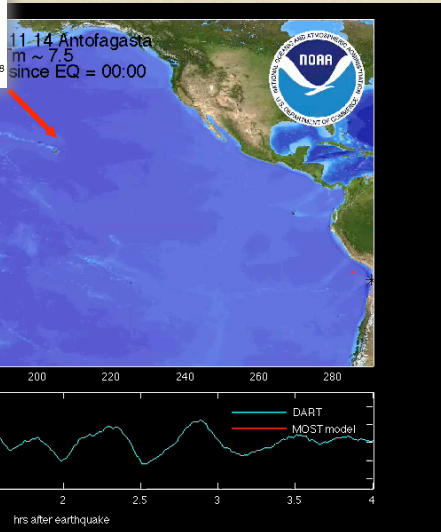
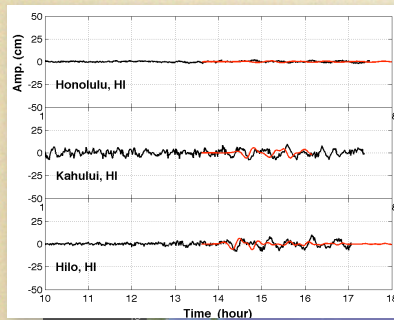


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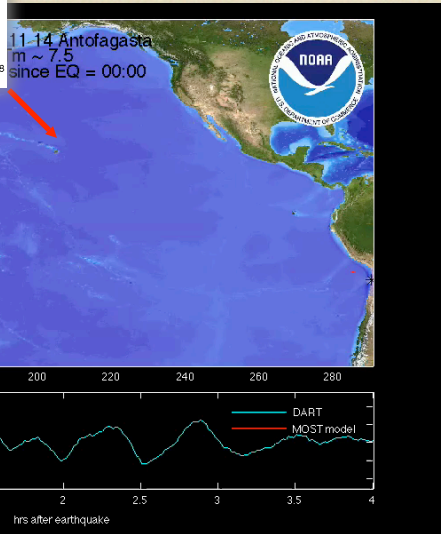
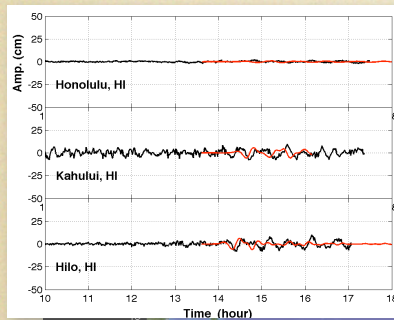


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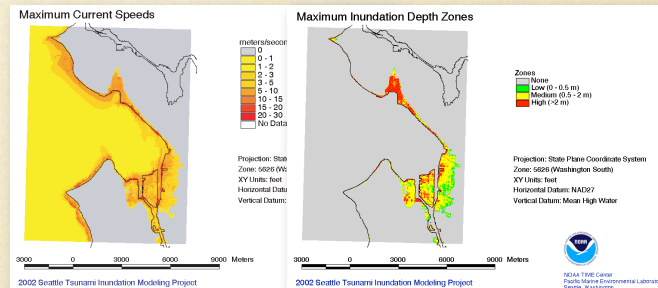
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# Challenges of Real-time Tsunami Forecast



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# Brief history of tsunami modeling (1990-2000)

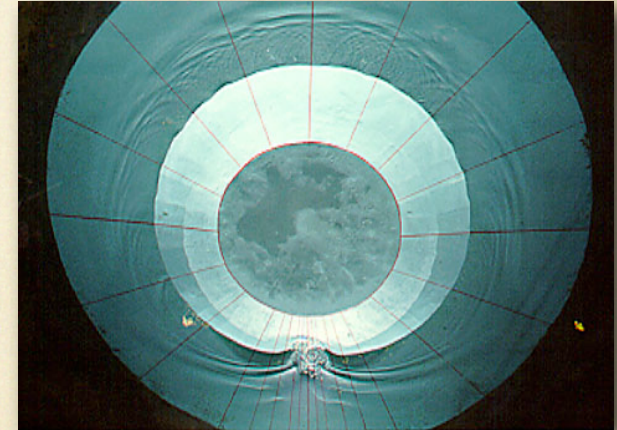
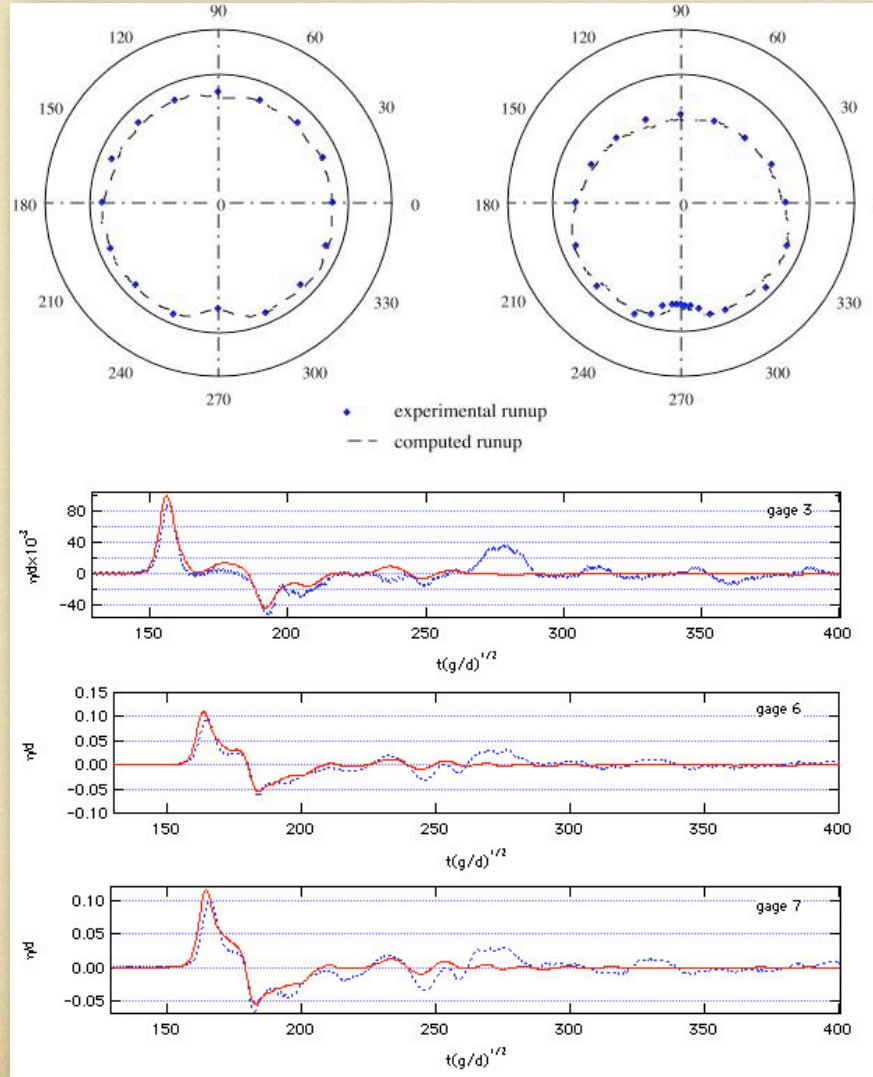
International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction



- 1990 first NSF workshop on tsunami models  
Modeling problems identified: little data for testing  
(MOST model first introduced)
- 1992-95 Conical Island experiments
- 1995 2nd NSF workshop on tsunami models  
First benchmark tests (MOST model first tests)
- 1997 NSF workshop on tsunami sources:
  - no real-time source parameters, from seismic data
  - value of deep-ocean tsunami measurements.

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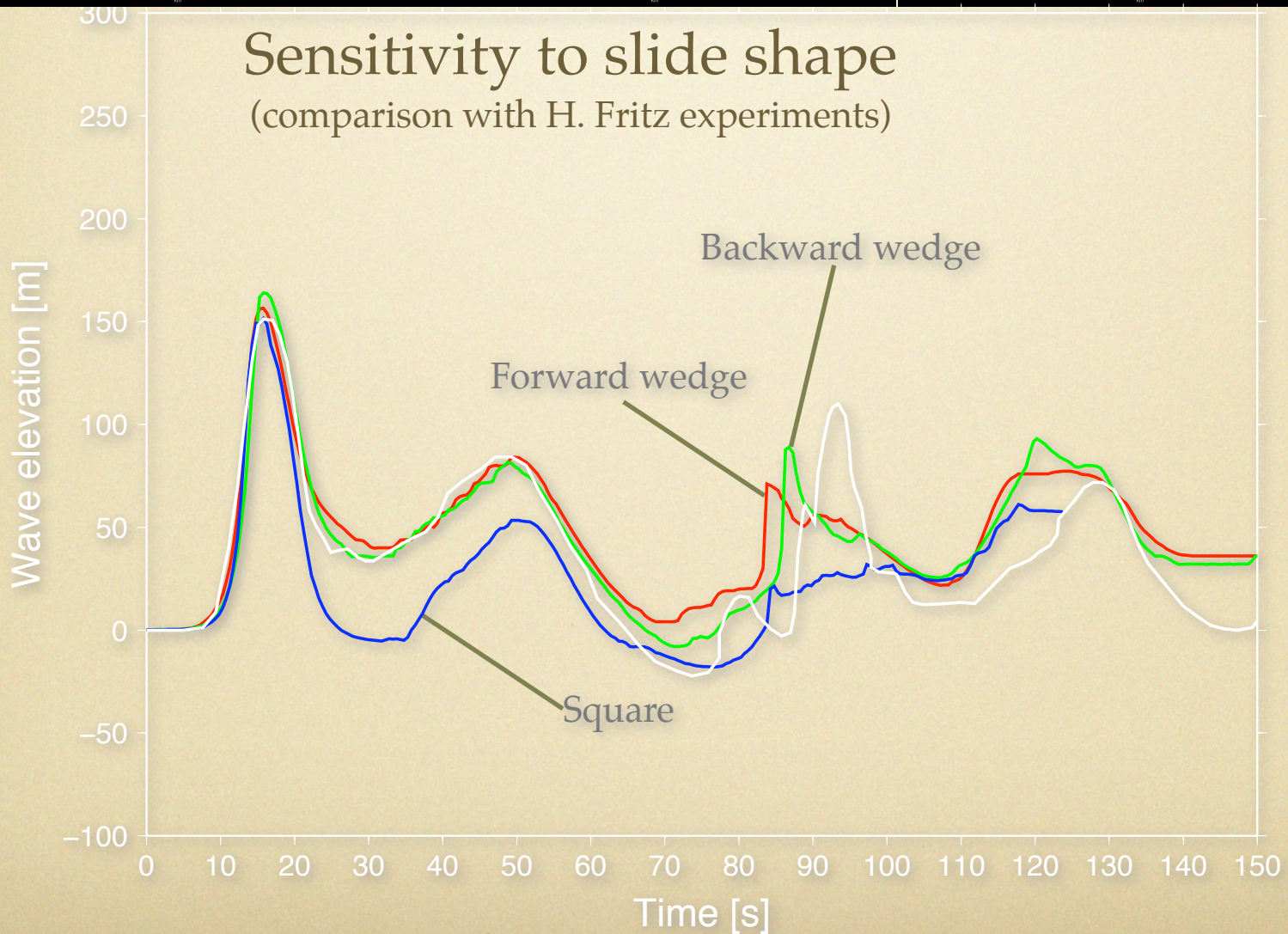
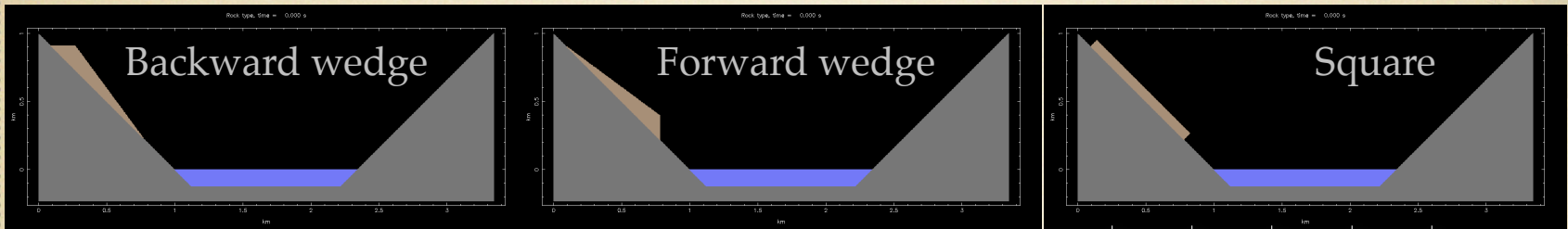
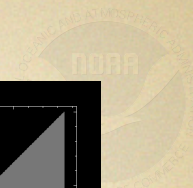
International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction



Friday Harbor Workshop  
Benchmarks  
(Yeh, H. P. Liu and C.  
Synolakis (ed), 1996)

Runup of a solitary wave  
on a conical island  
(Briggs, Synolakis, Green,  
Harkins, 1995)

# Landslide Model Validation



# Brief history of tsunami modeling (1990-2000)

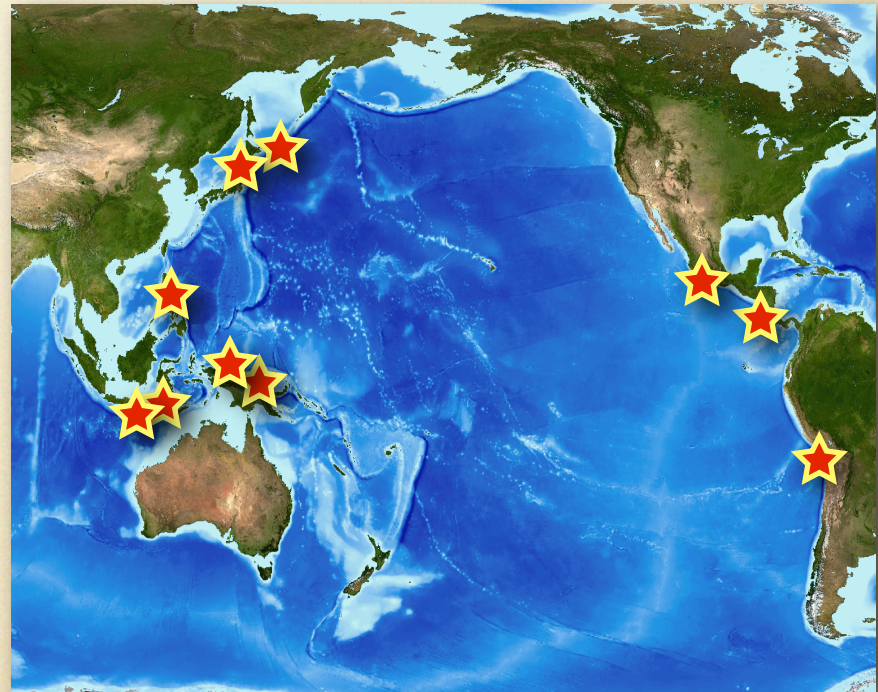
International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction



## Surveys of destructive tsunamis for models verification (1990 - 2000)

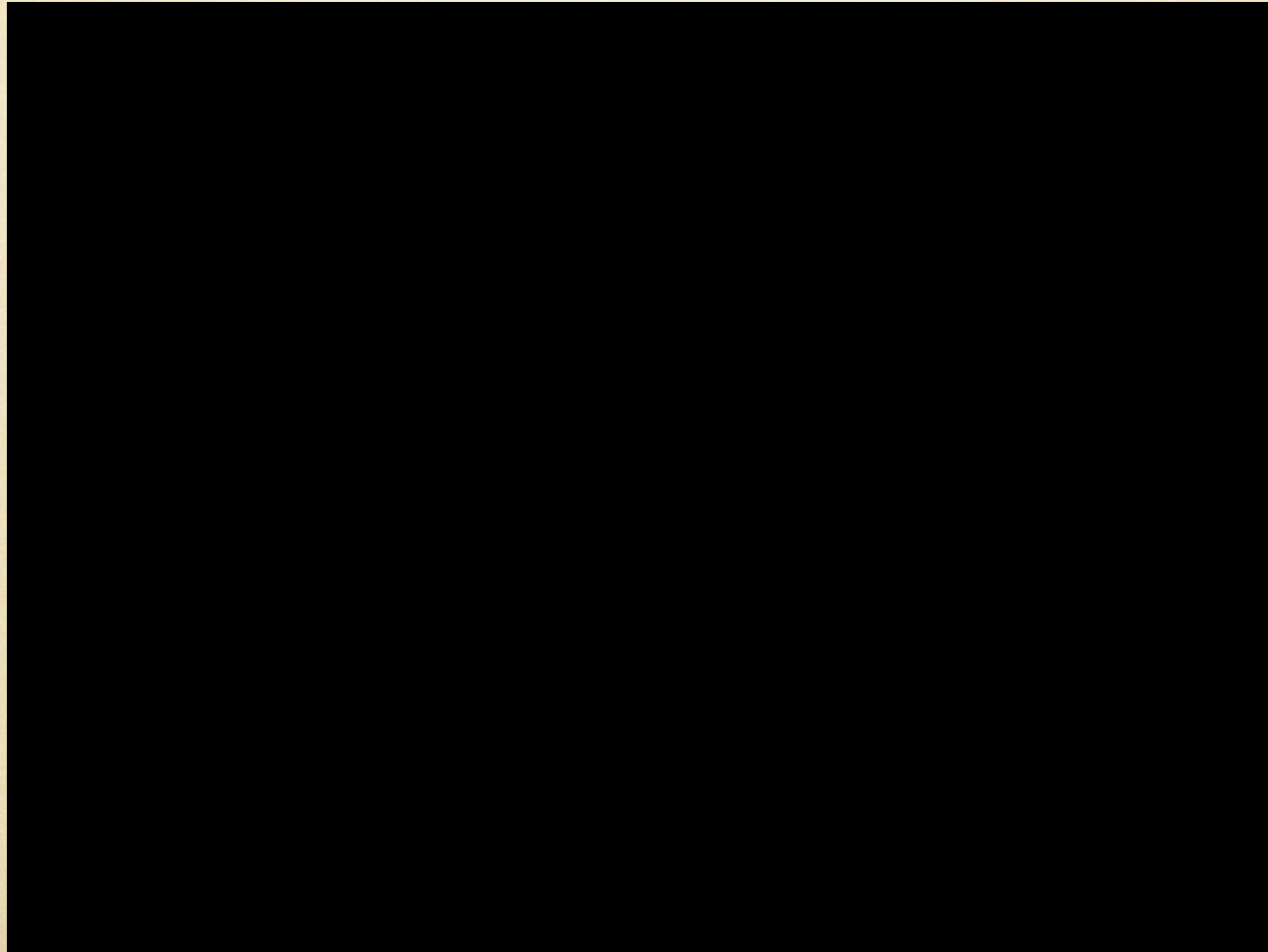
Over 4,000 people died

- 1992 Nicaragua (170)
- 1992 Flores Island, Indonesia (1000)
- 1993 Okushiri Island, Japan (239)
- 1994 E. Java, Indonesia (238)
- 1994 Kuril Islands, Russia (11)
- 1994 Mindoro Is, Philippines (49)
- 1996 Irian Jaya, Indonesia (161)
- 1996 Chimbote, Peru (12)
- 1998 Papua New Guinea (2182)

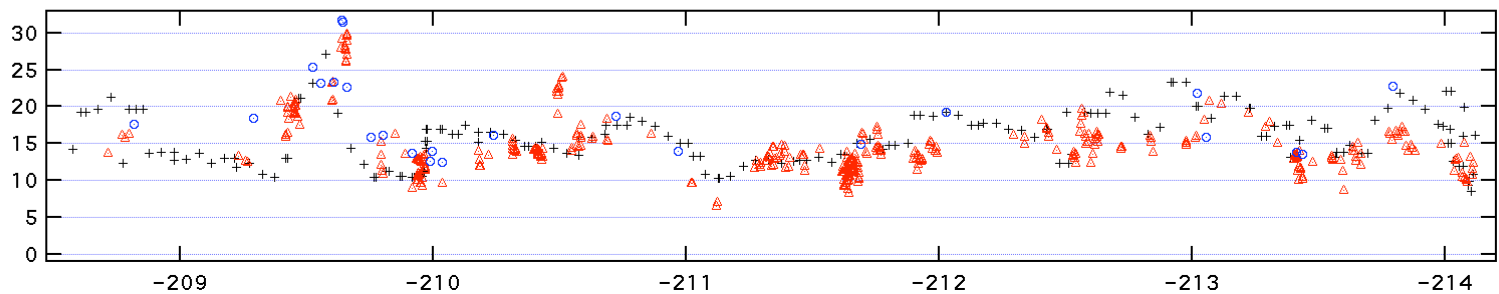
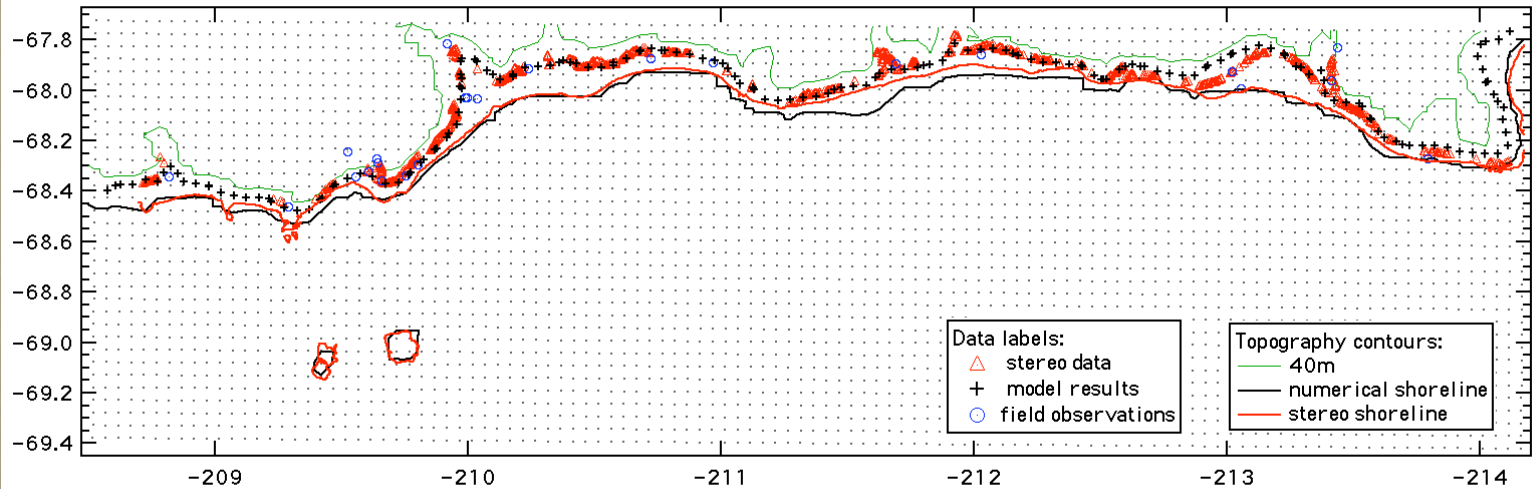
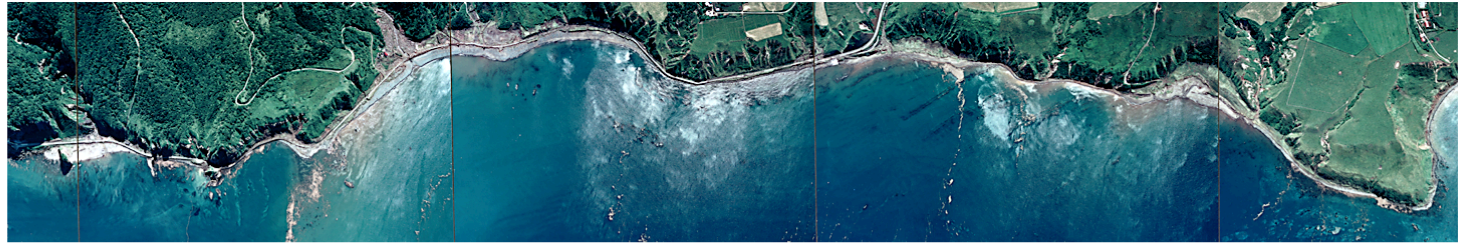




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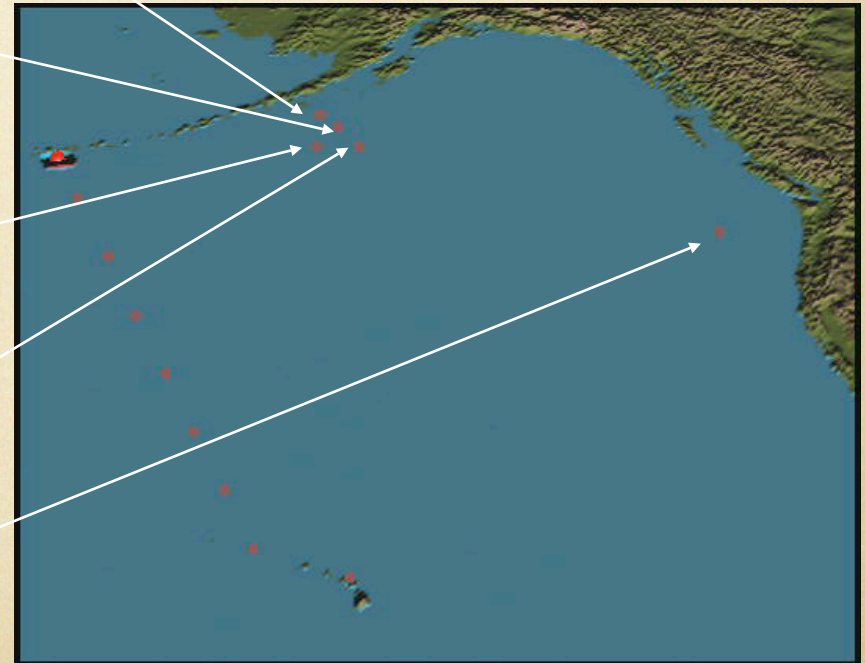
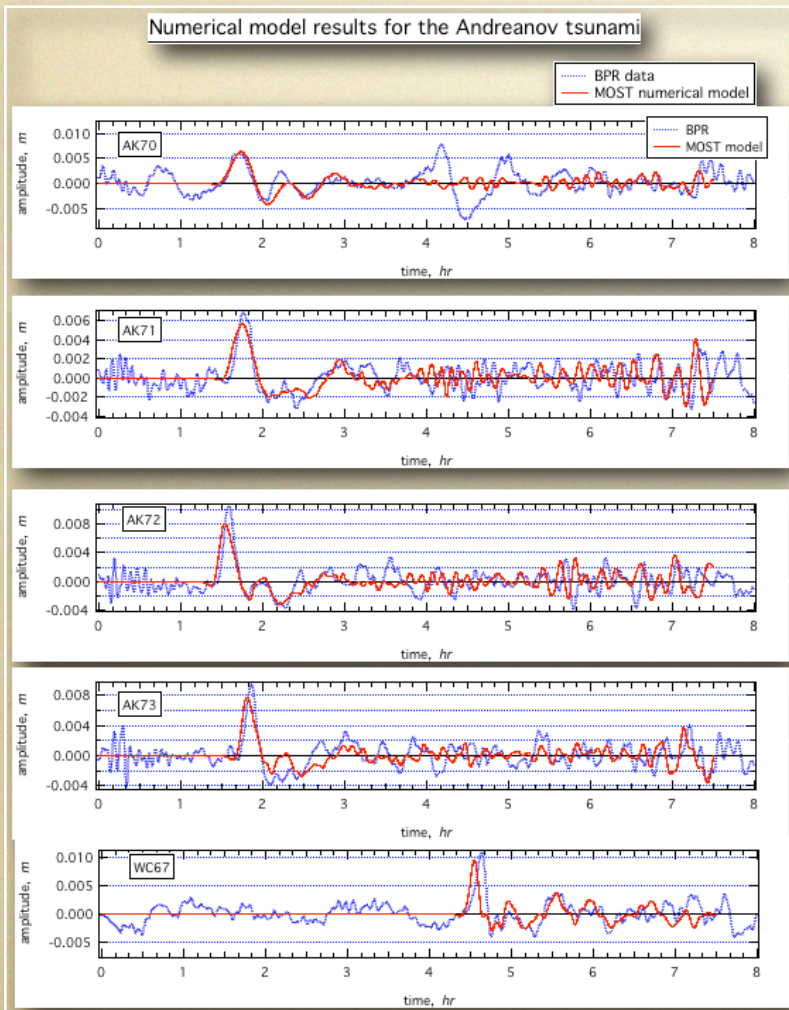
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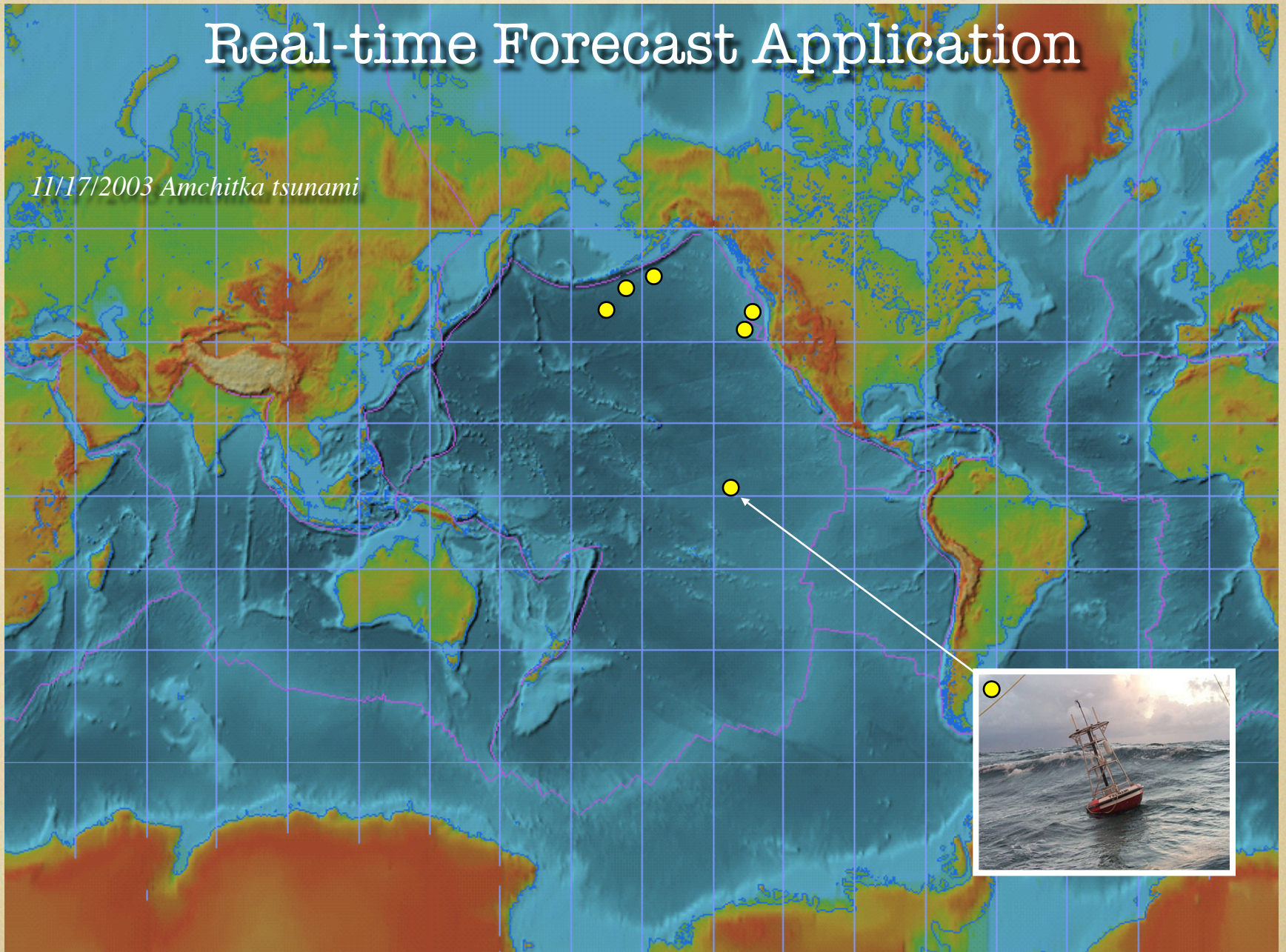
Deep-ocean measurements become available

*June 10, 1996 Andreanov tsunami  
(Titov & Gonzalez, 1997)*



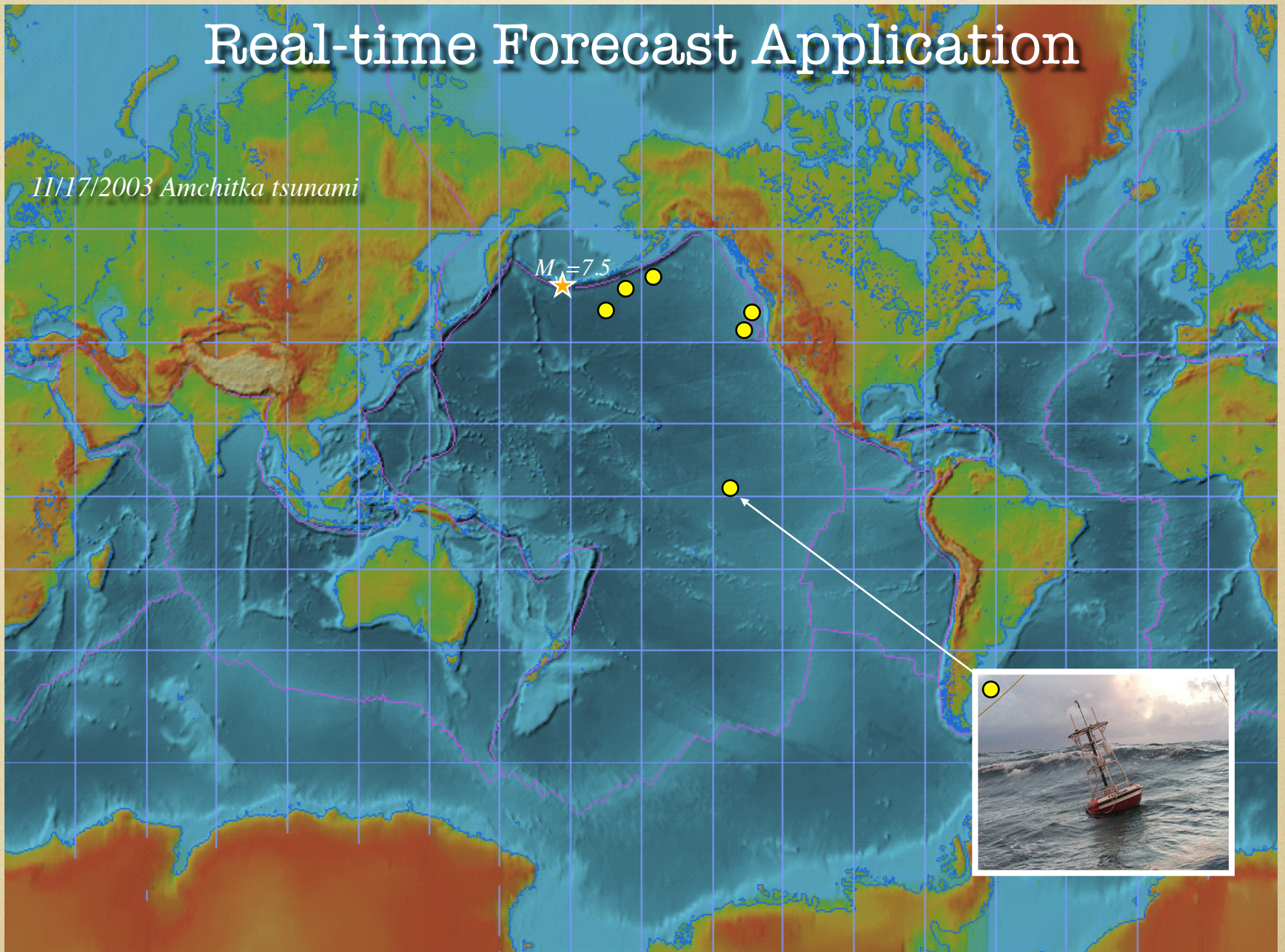
# Real-time Forecast Application

11/17/2003 Amchitka tsunami



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$M_w = 7.5$

3cm

-3

3cm

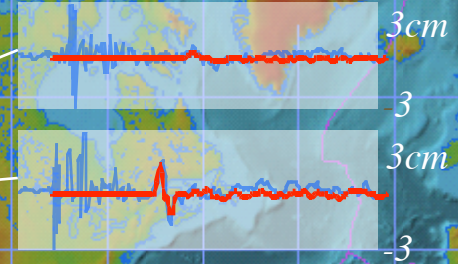
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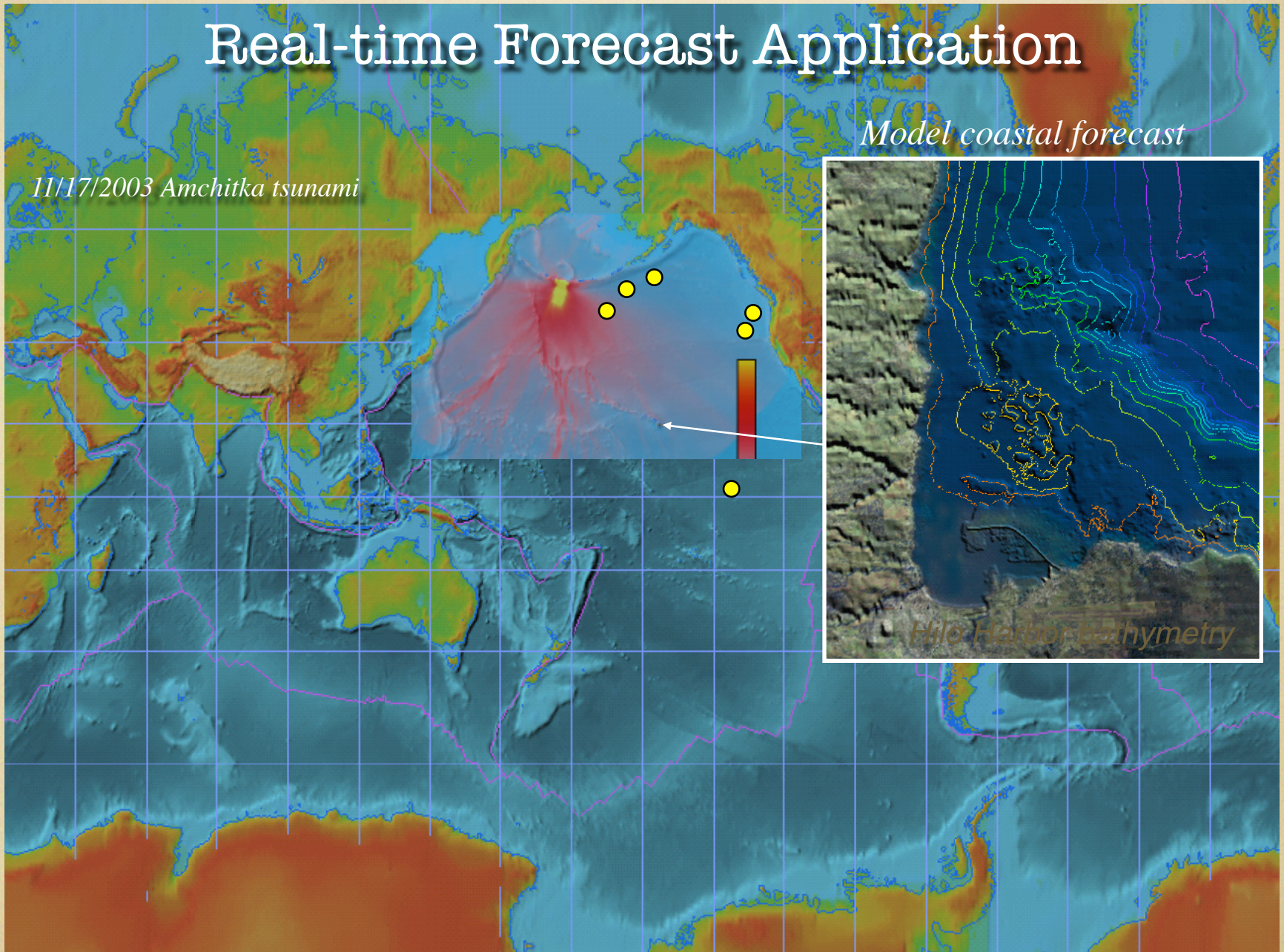
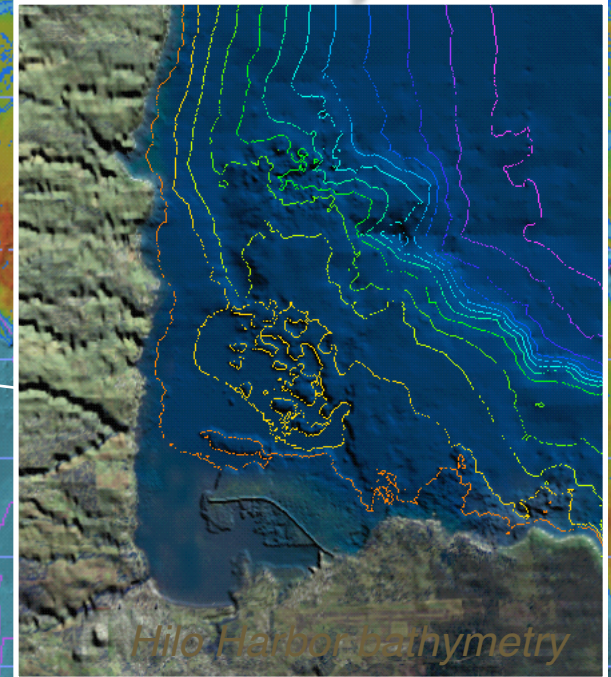
Model regional forecast



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*Model coastal forecast*

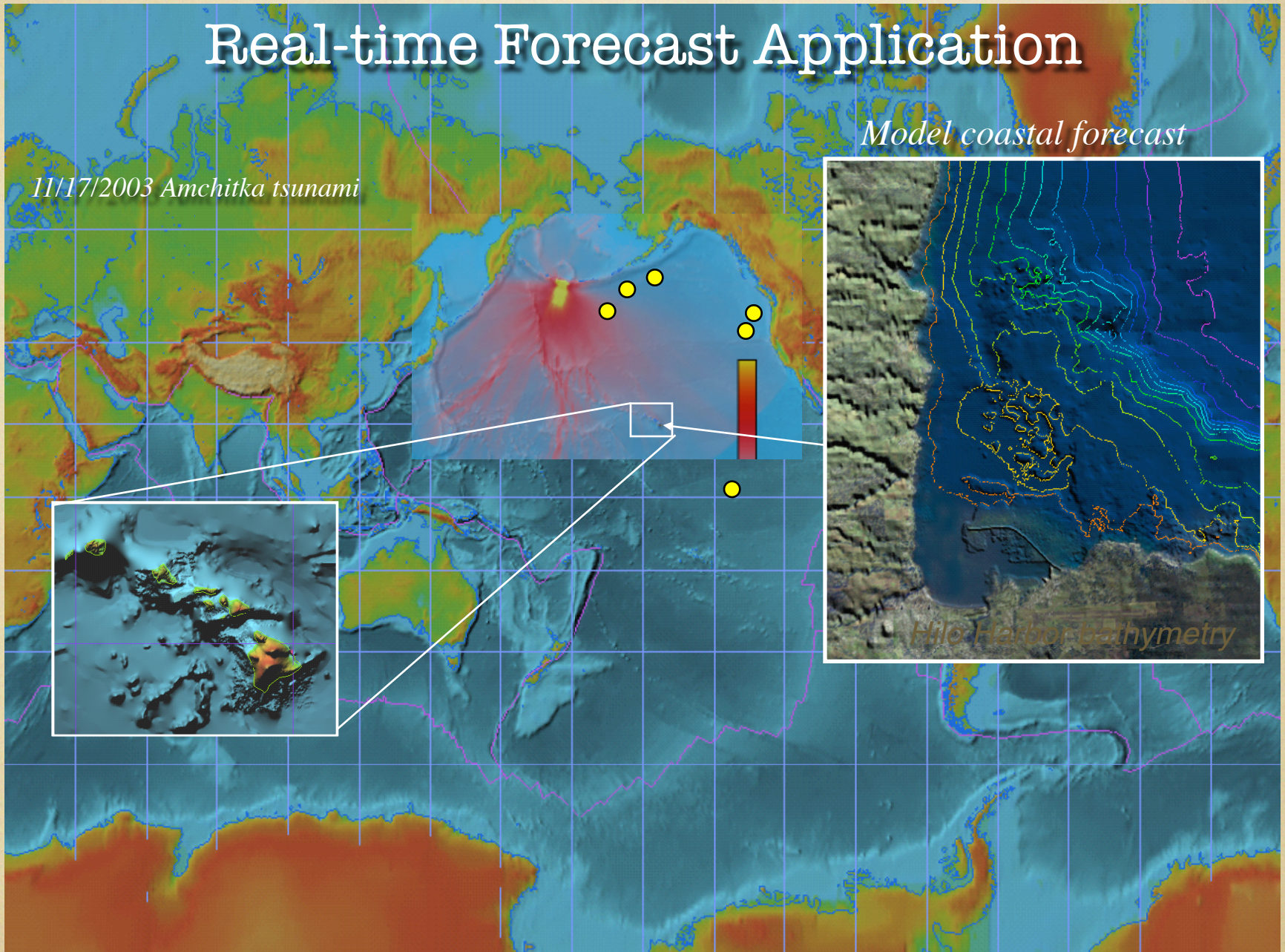
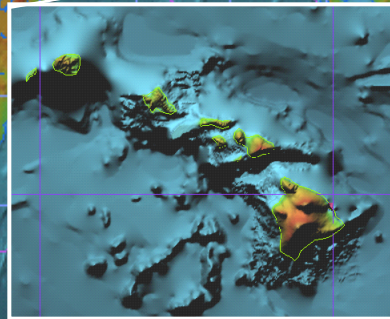
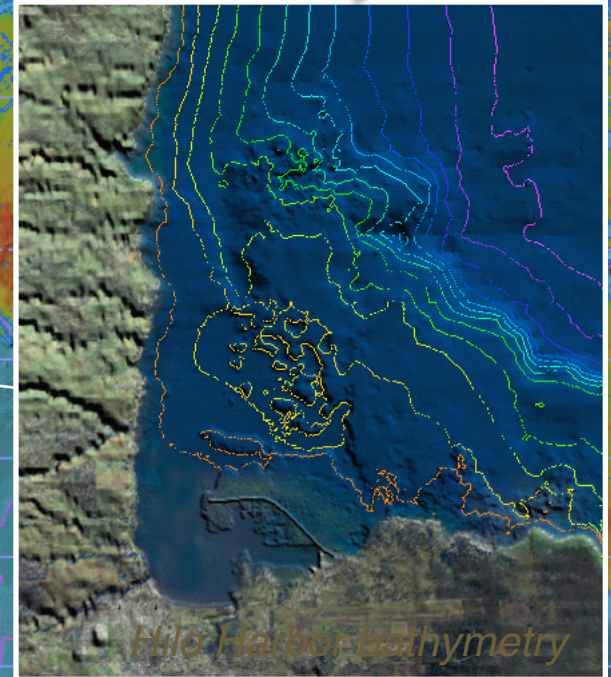




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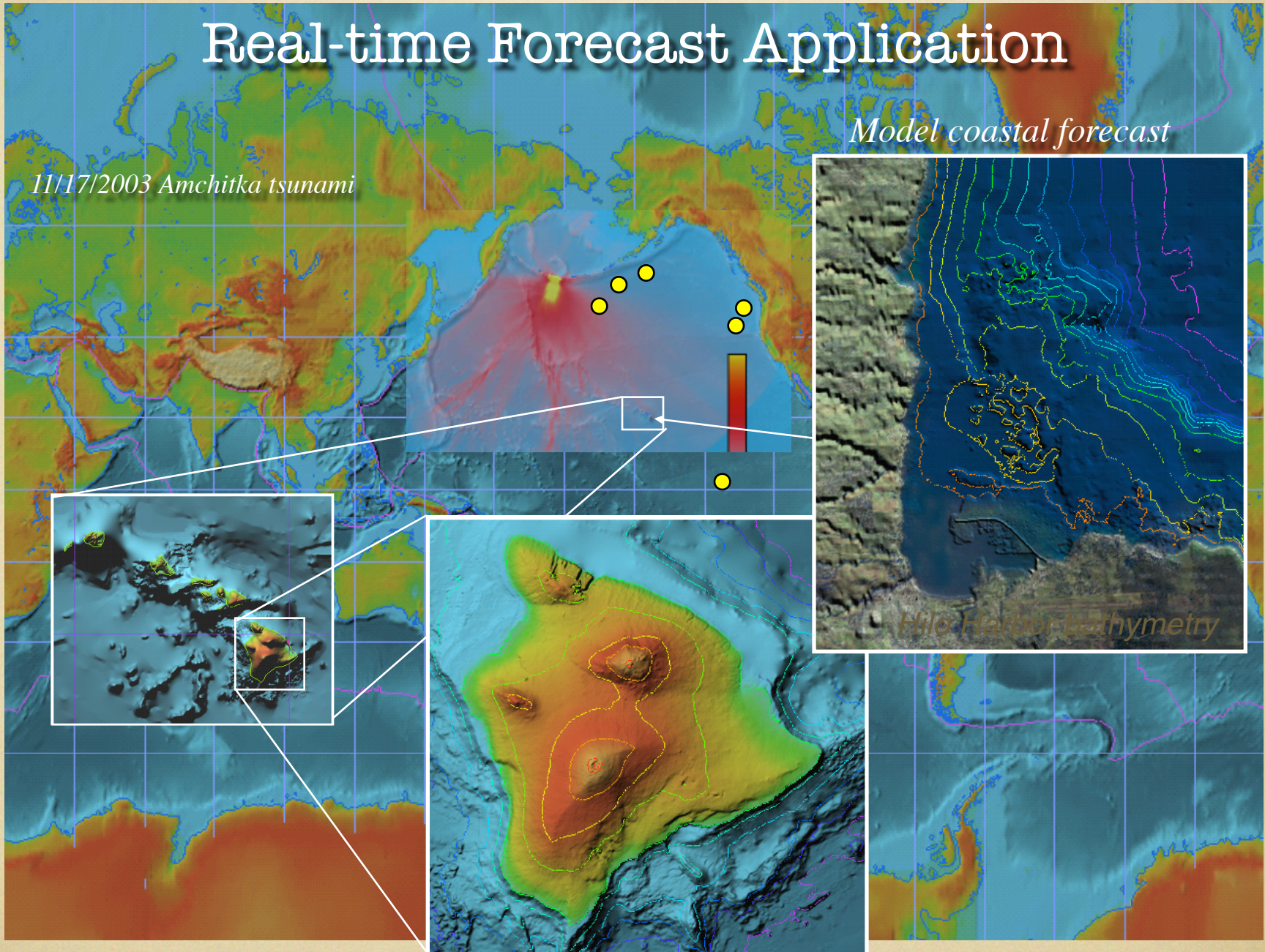
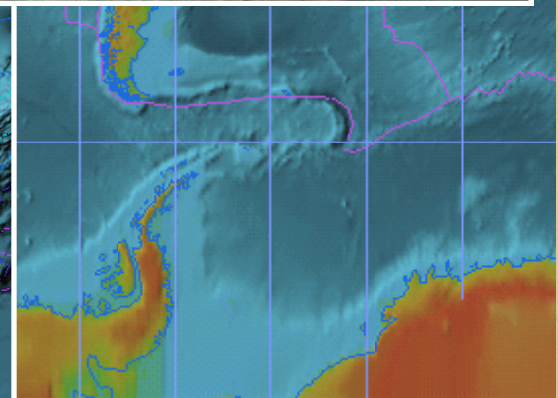
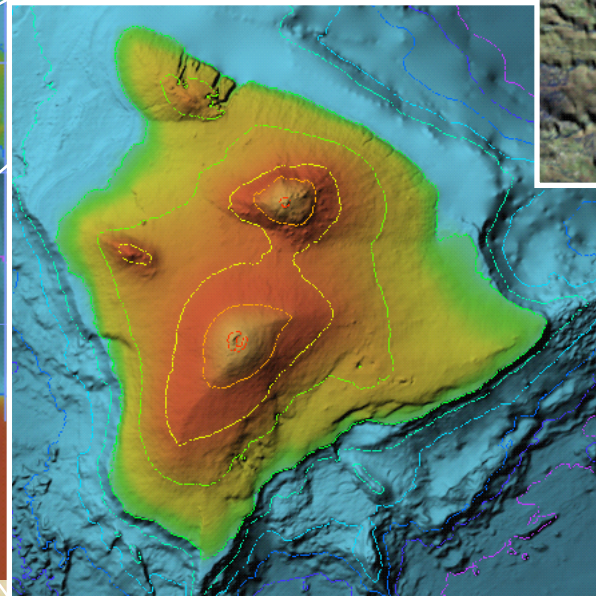
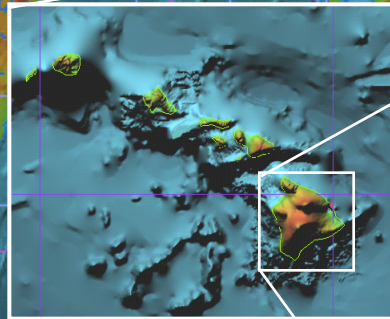
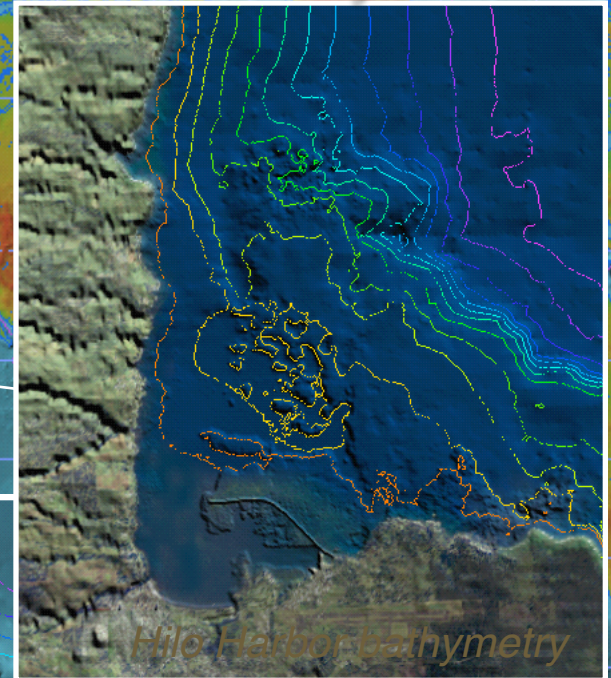
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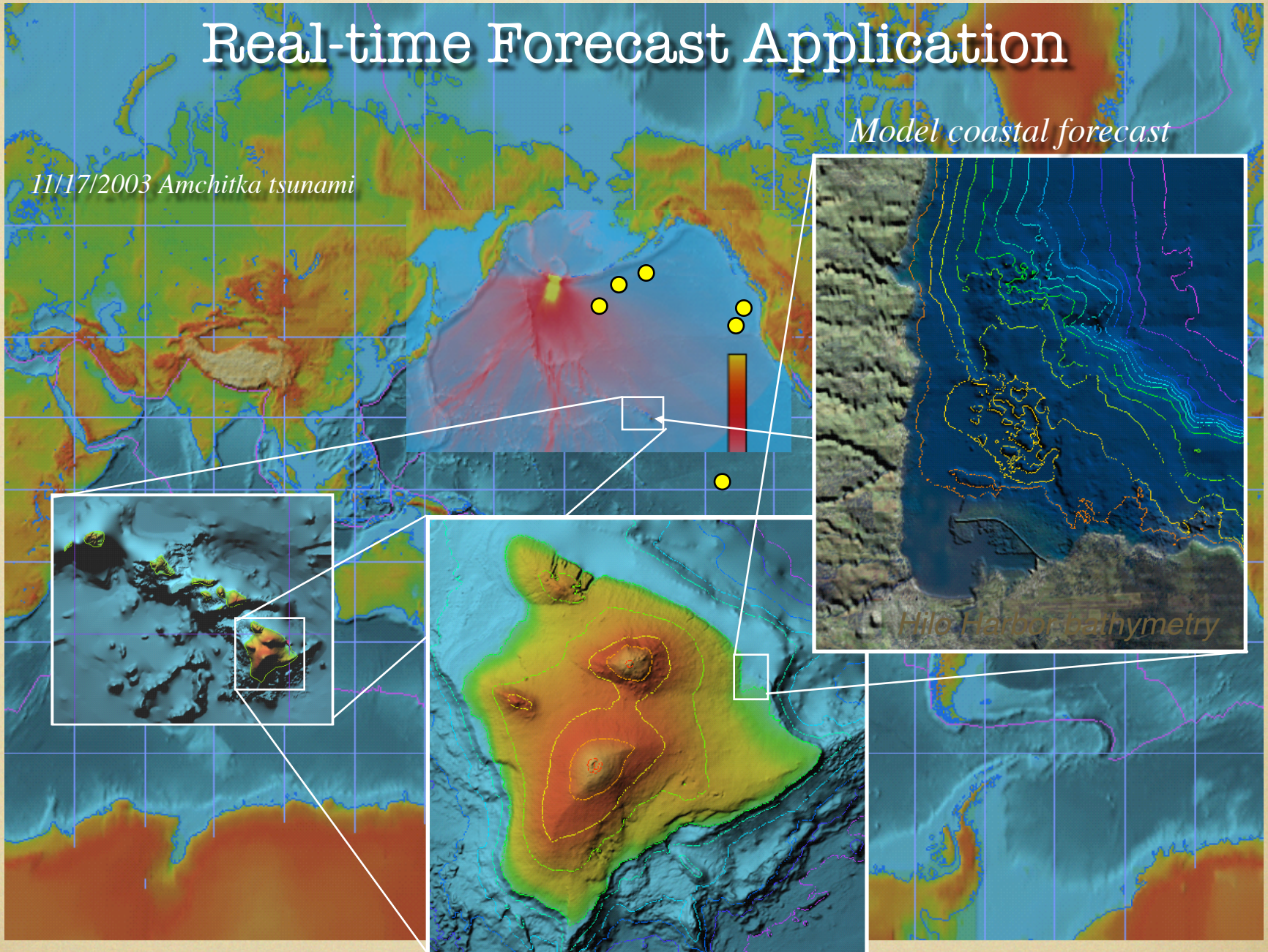
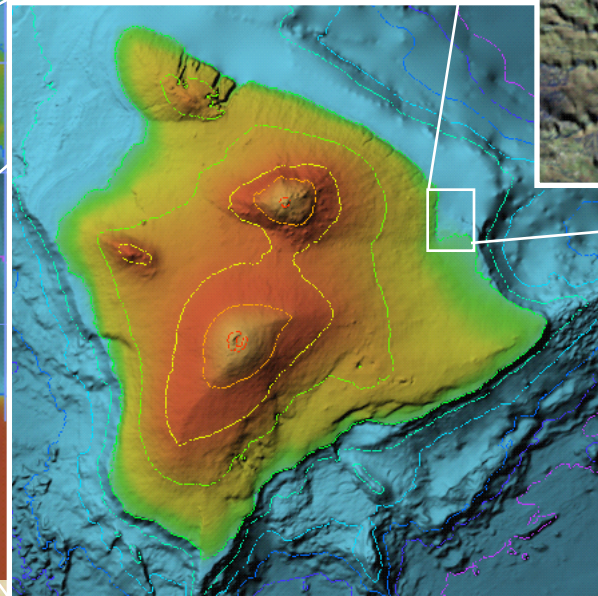
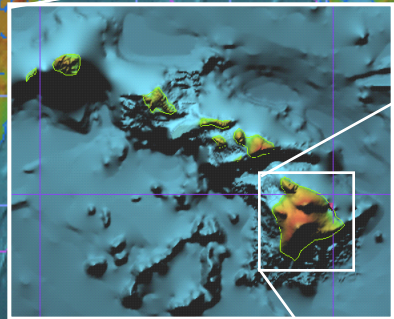
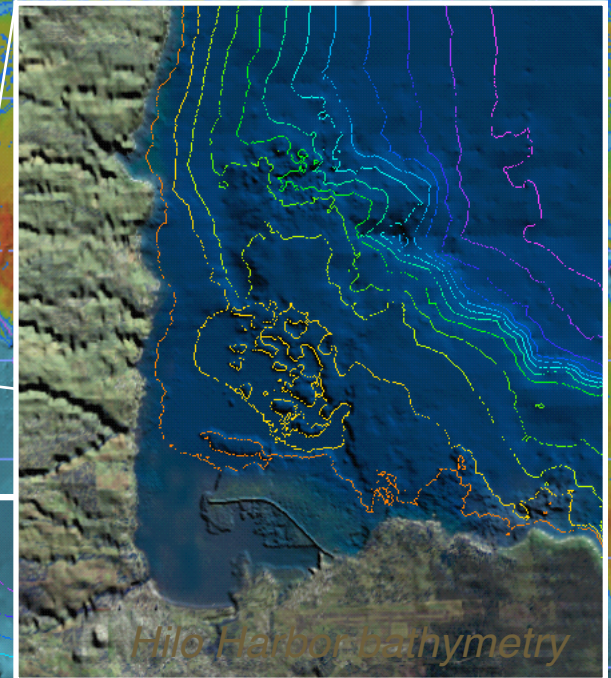
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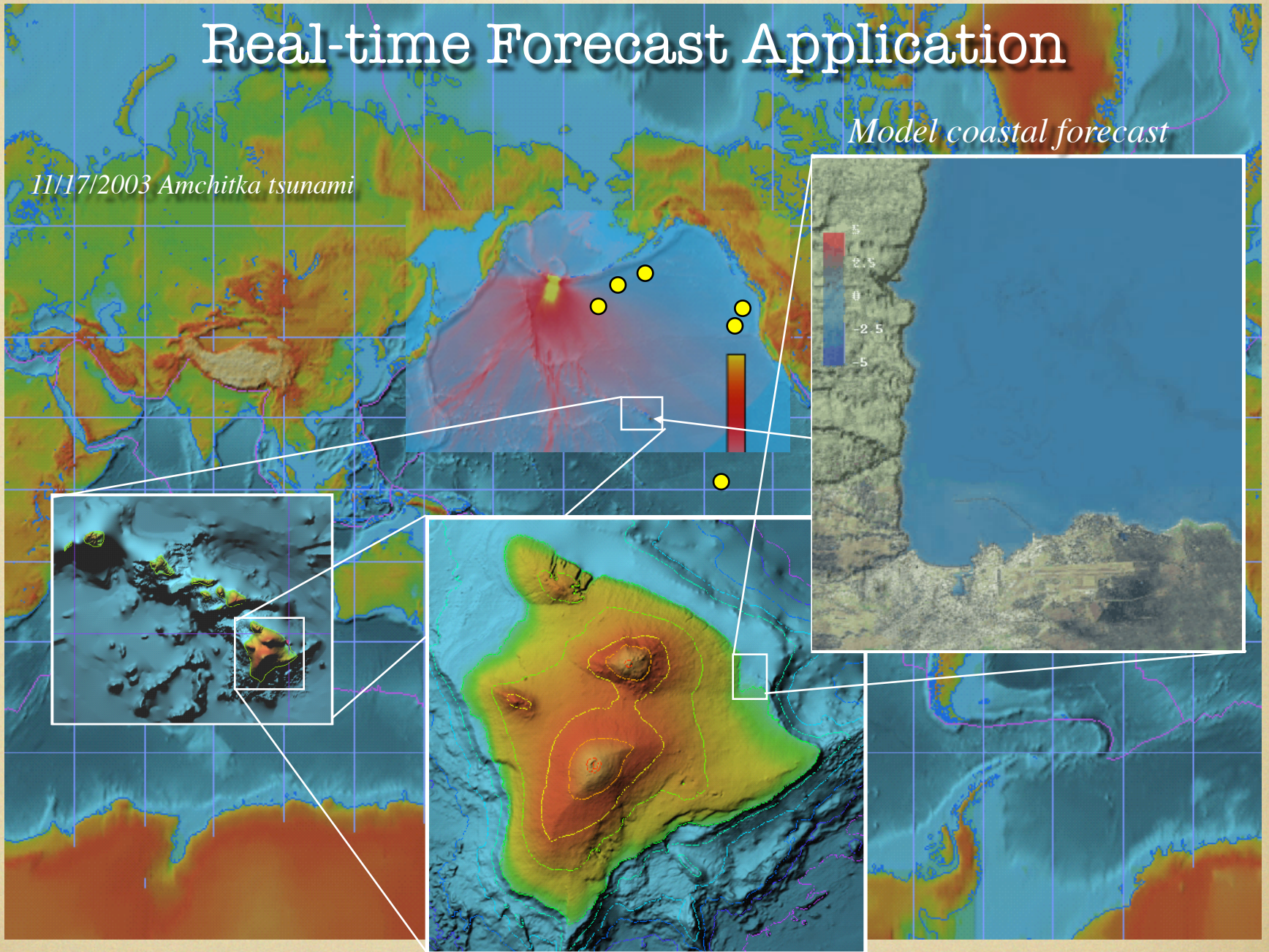
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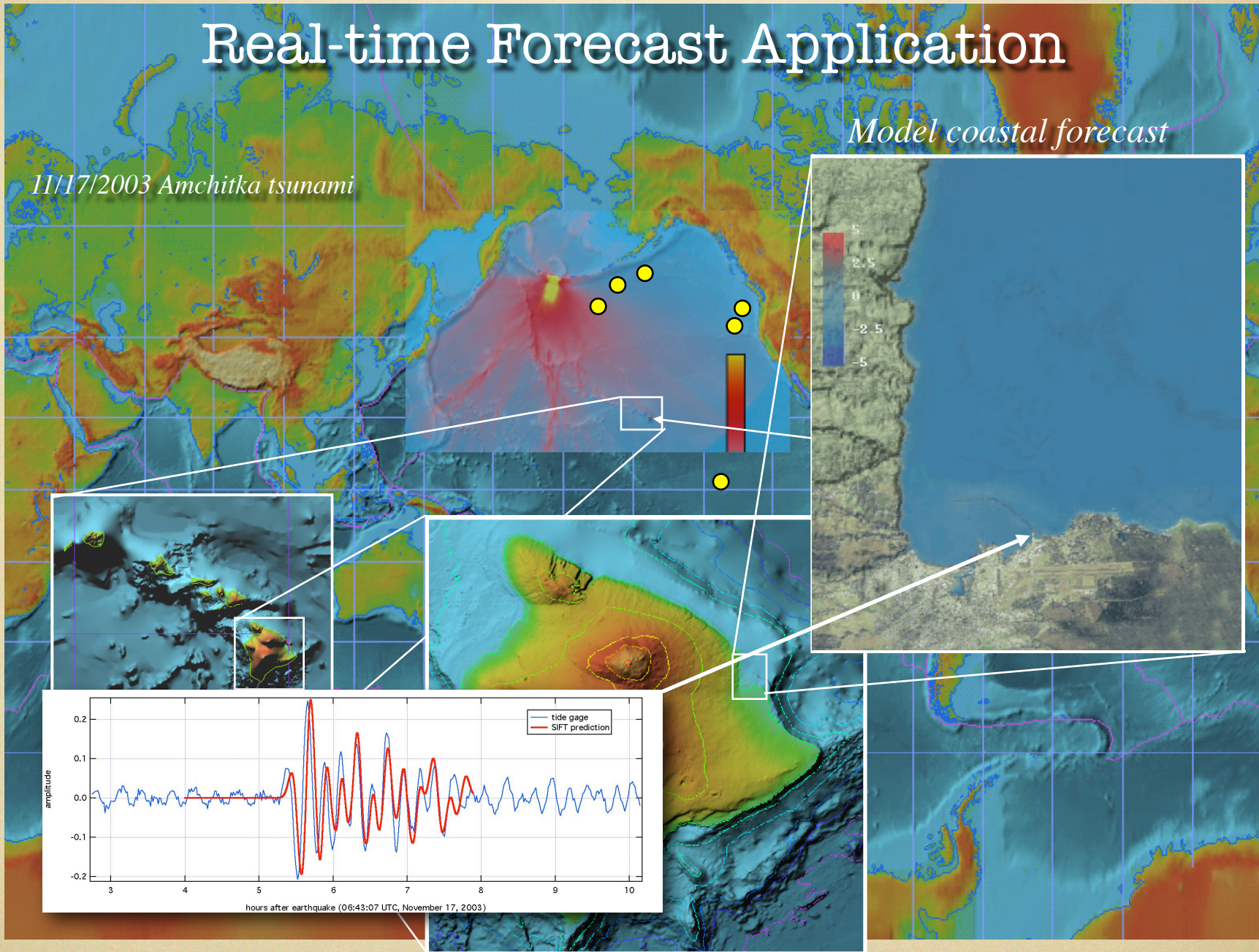
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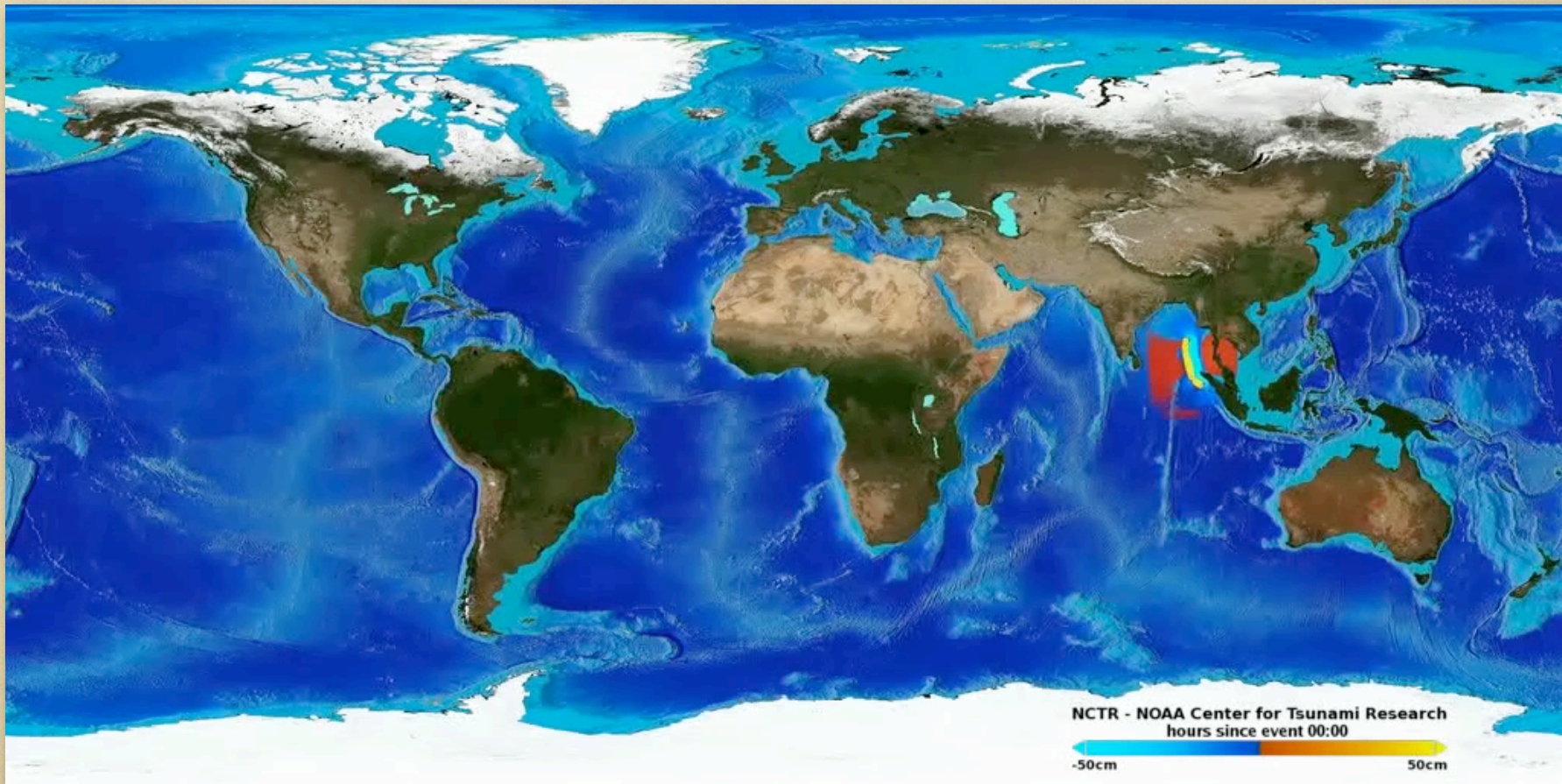
# December 26, 2004



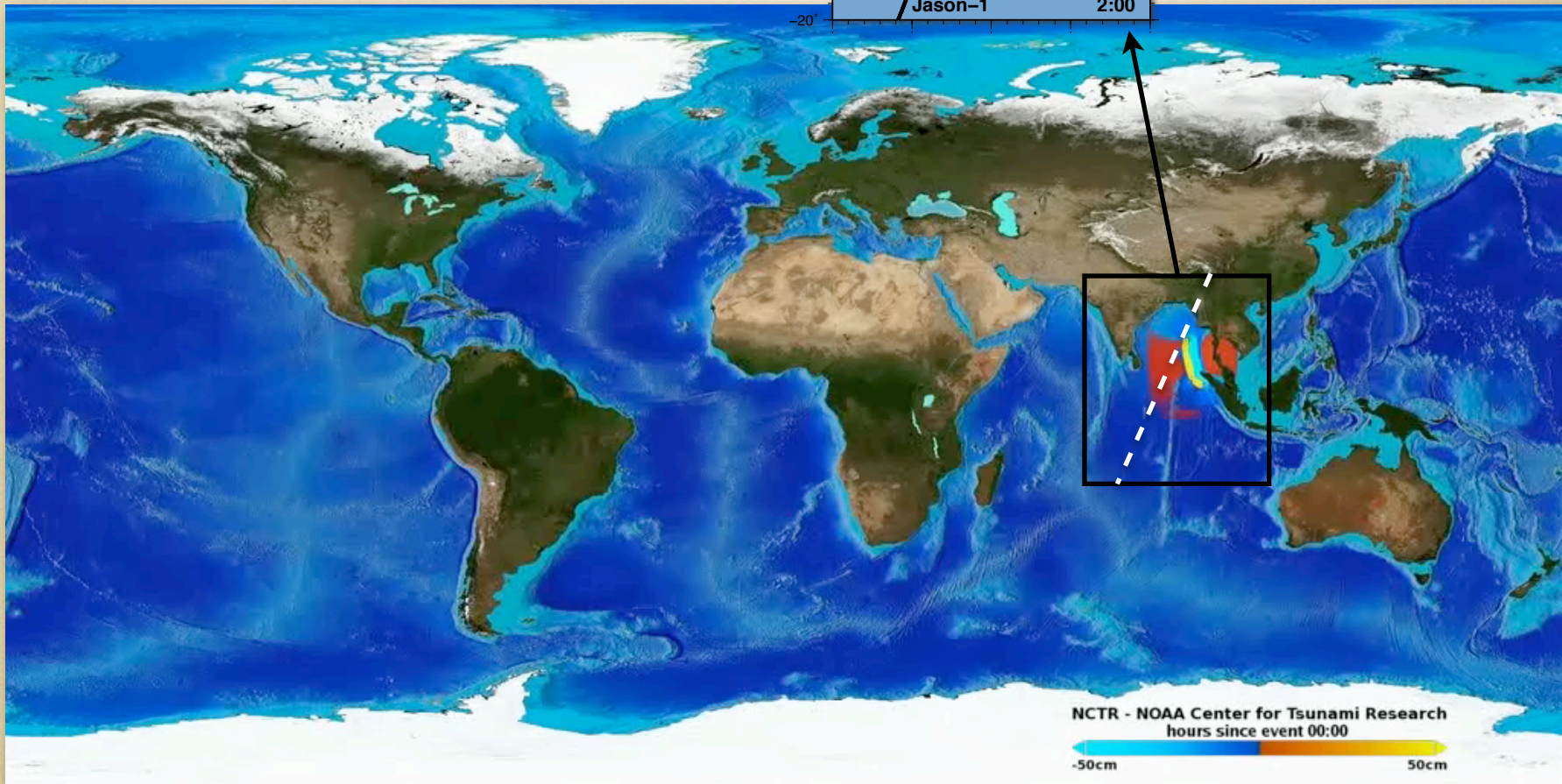
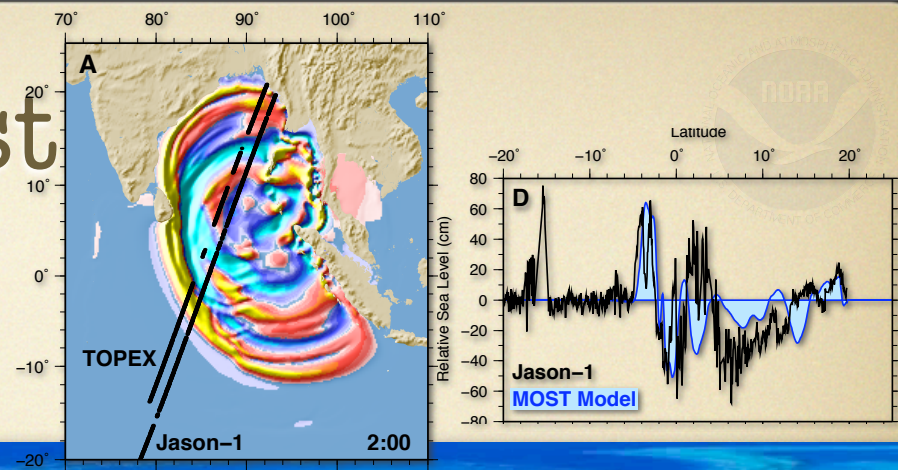
## Sumatra tsunami hitting Koh Pu, Thailand



# Tsunami Forecast Ultimate Test

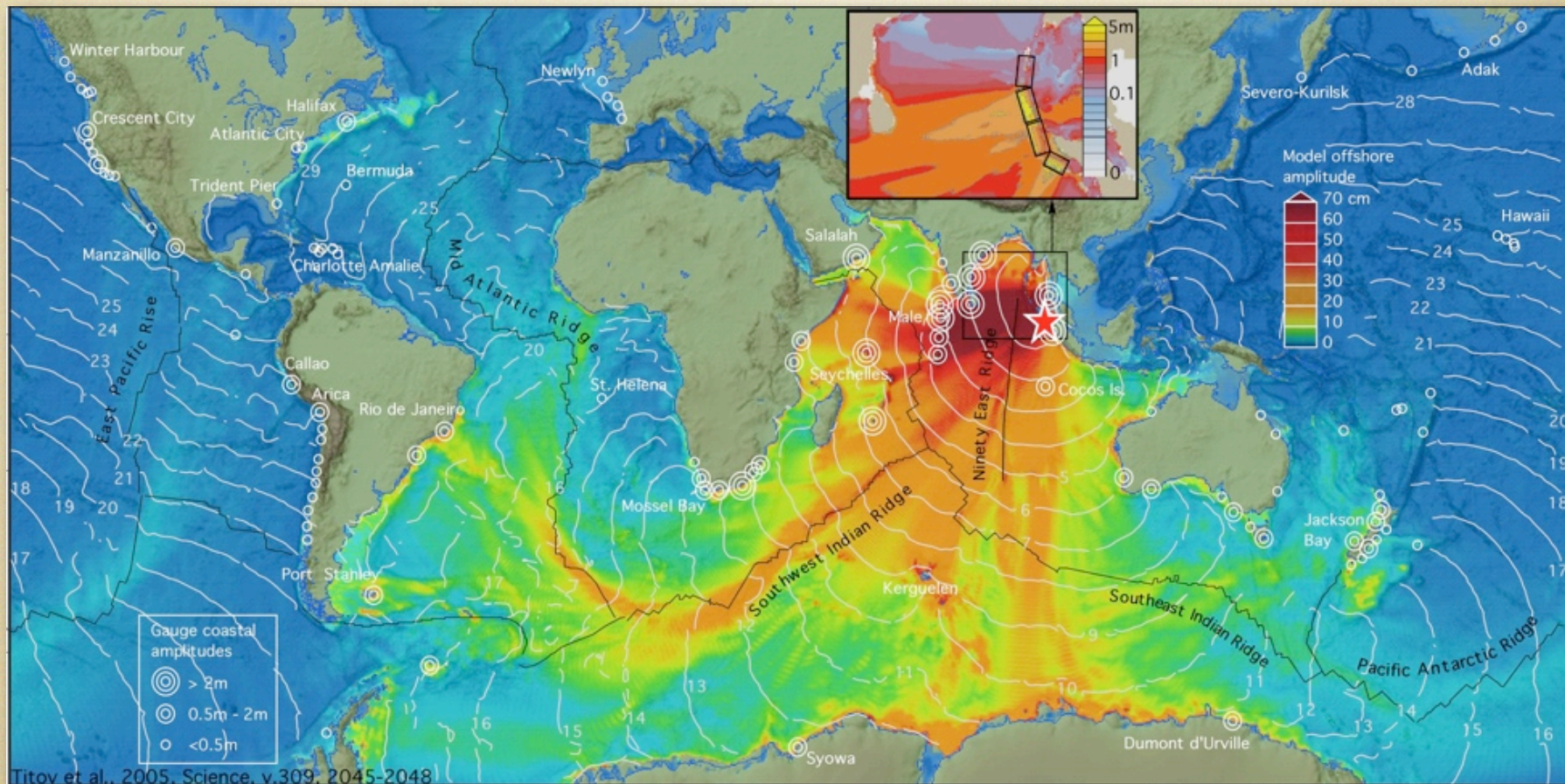


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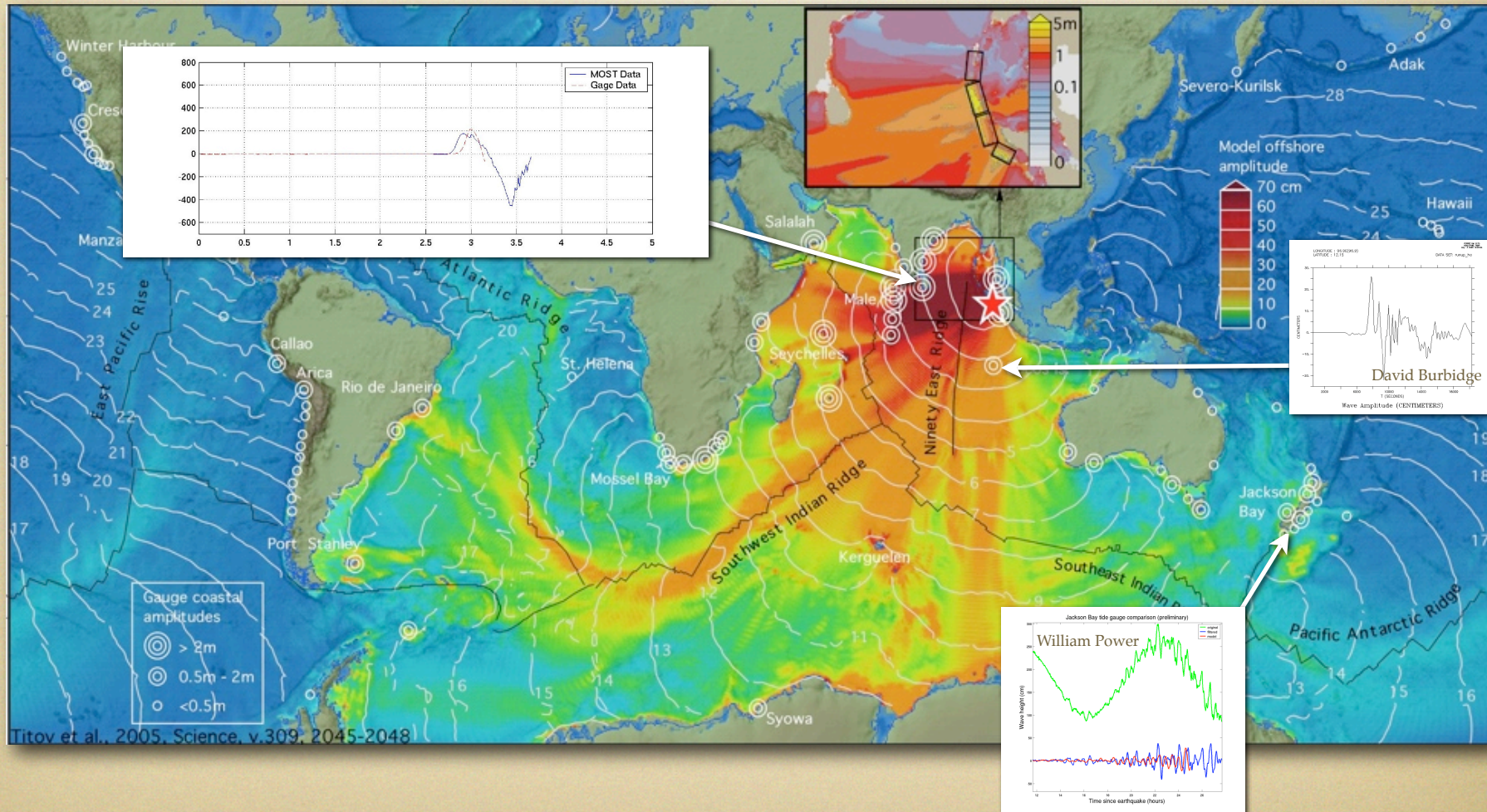


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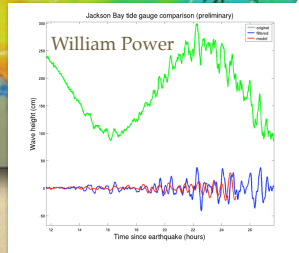
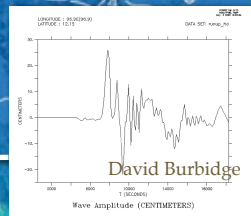
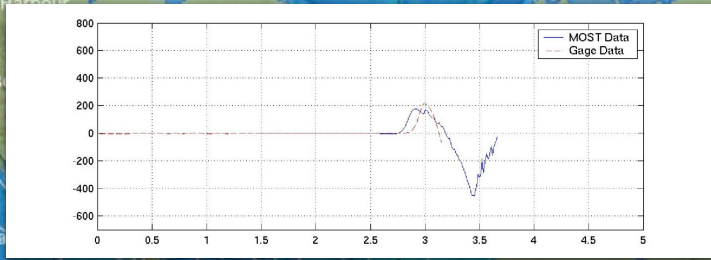
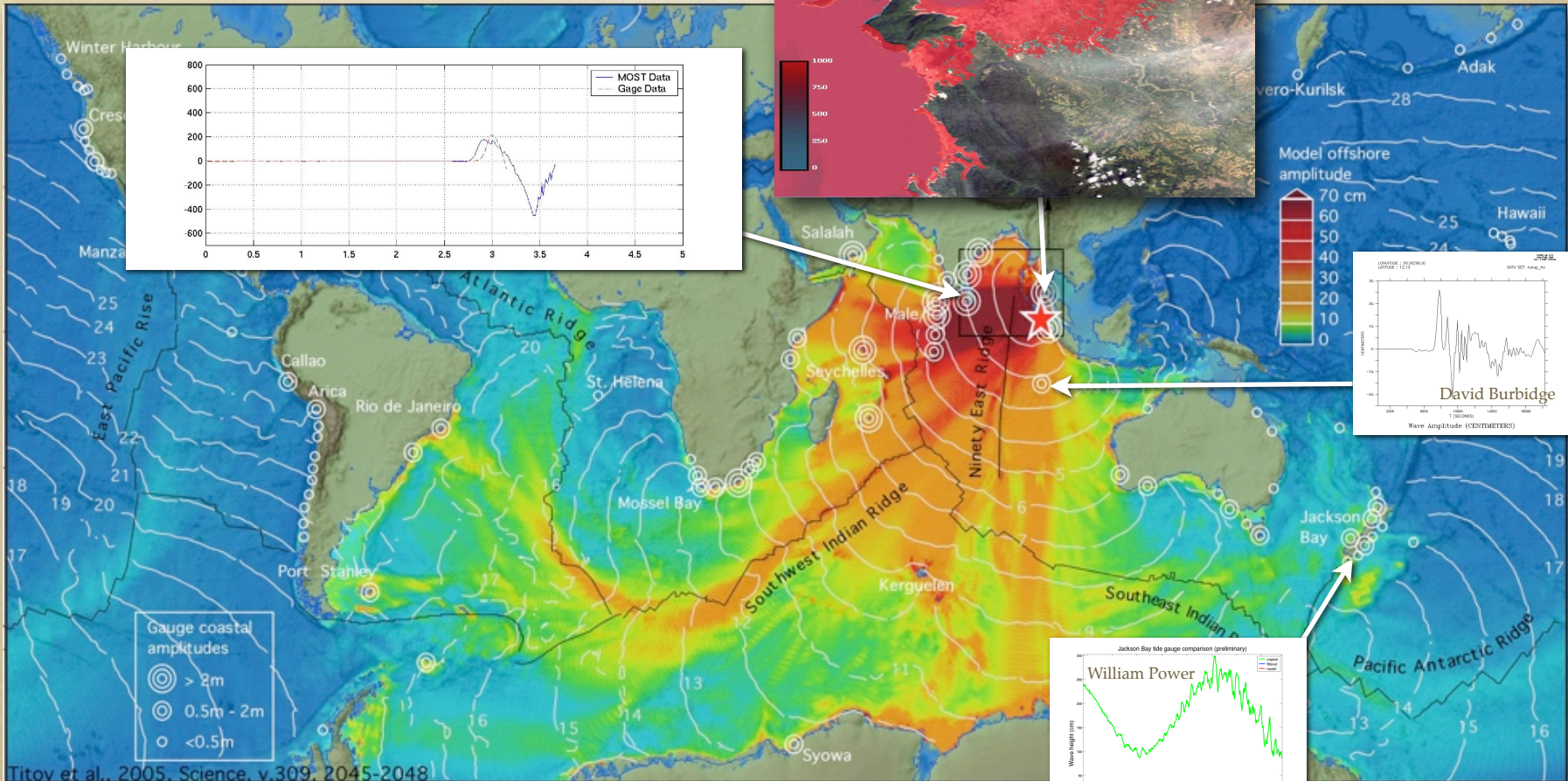
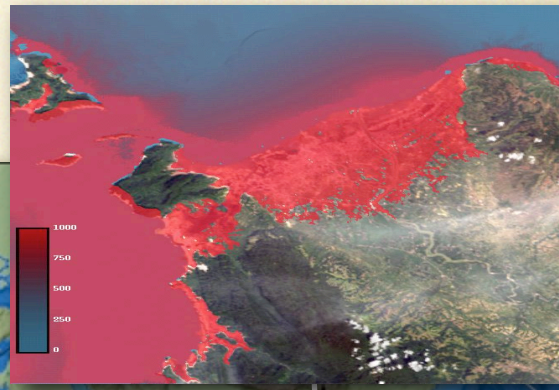


Titov et al., 2005, Science, v.309, 2045-2048

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Titov et al., 2005, Science, v.309, 2045-2048

# Model Standards for Operational Forecast



## NOAA Forecast Model Standards

- **Peer-reviewed publication.**  
An must be published in peer-reviewed scientific journals with impact factors greater than one
- **Benchmarking.** The model must be tested against other peer models in a benchmark workshop, and the results documented in a report
- **Operational Assessment.** Important factors to be assessed include the model speed, accuracy, special operating environment needs, ease-of-use, and documentation

NOAA Technical Memorandum OAR PMEL-135

### STANDARDS, CRITERIA, AND PROCEDURES FOR NOAA EVALUATION OF TSUNAMI NUMERICAL MODELS

Costas E. Synolakis<sup>1</sup>  
Eddie N. Bernard<sup>2</sup>  
Vasily V. Titov<sup>3</sup>  
Utku Kanoğlu<sup>4</sup>  
Frank I. González<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup>Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory  
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<sup>3</sup>Joint Institute for the Study of the Atmosphere and Ocean (JISAO)  
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<sup>4</sup>Department of Engineering Sciences  
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Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory  
Seattle, WA  
May 2007



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Carlos M. Gutierrez  
Secretary

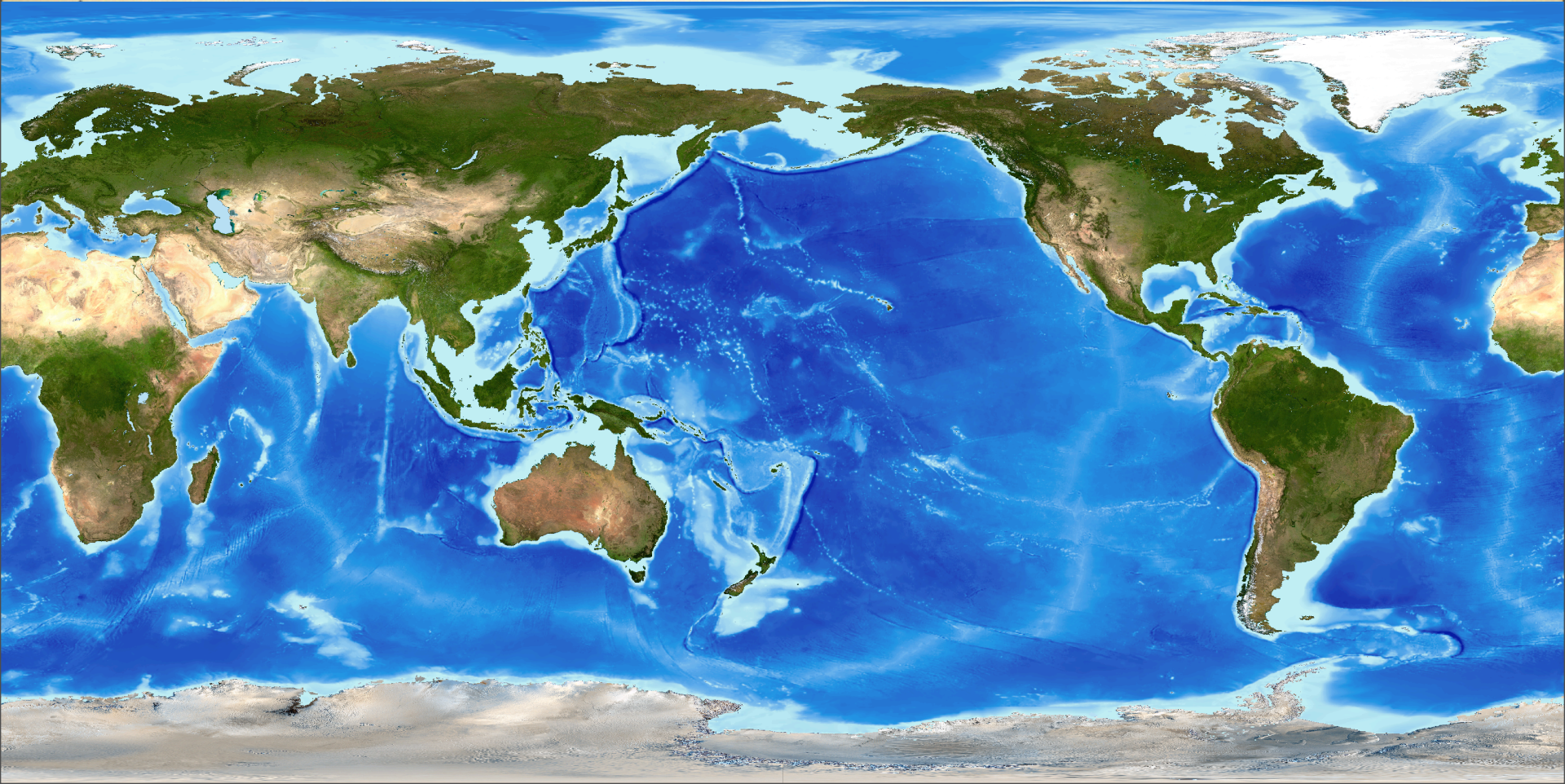
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND  
ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

VADM Conrad C. Lautenbacher, Jr.  
Under Secretary for Oceans  
and Atmosphere/Administrator

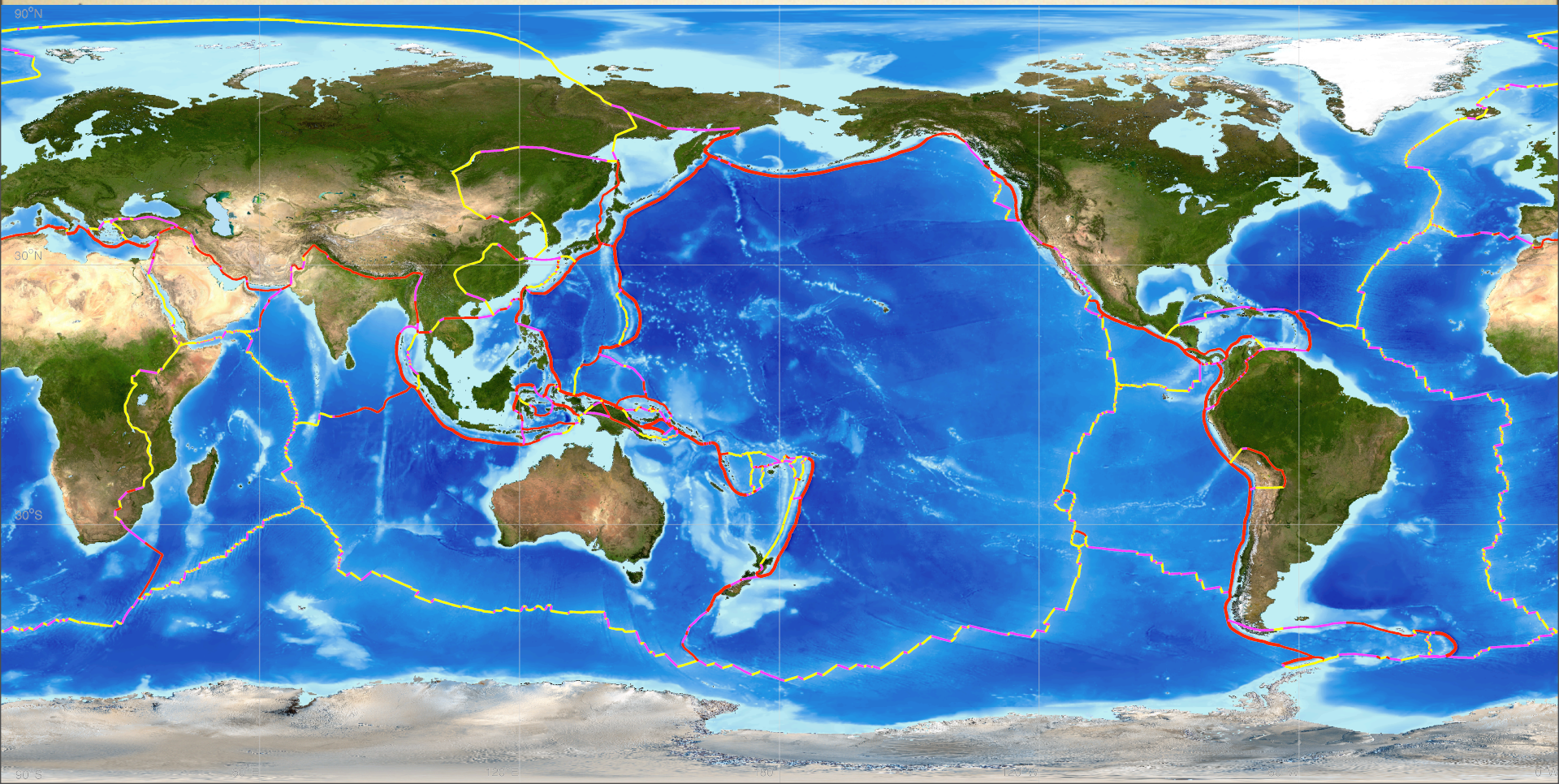
Office of Oceanic and  
Atmospheric Research

Richard W. Spinrad  
Assistant Administrator

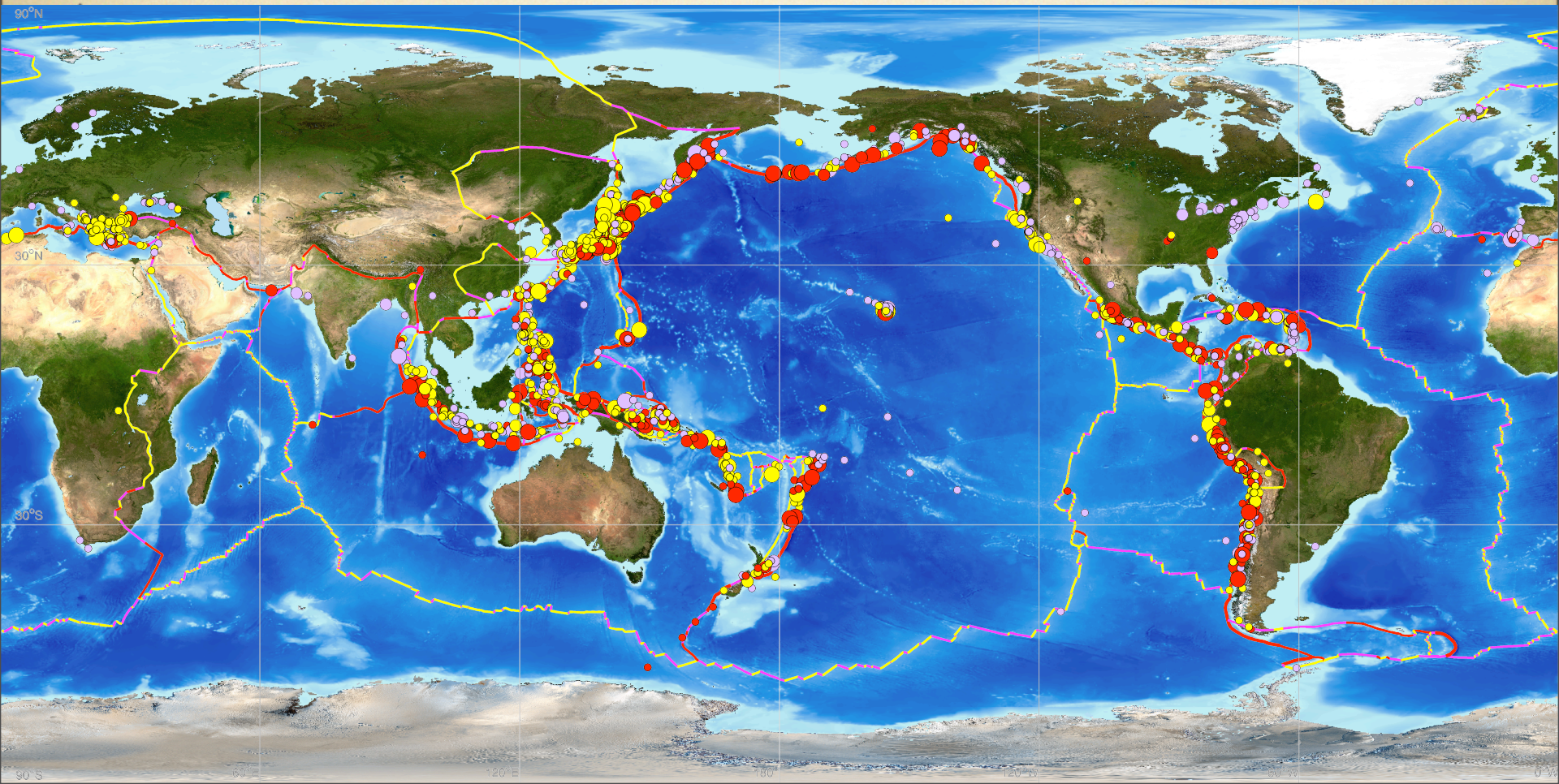
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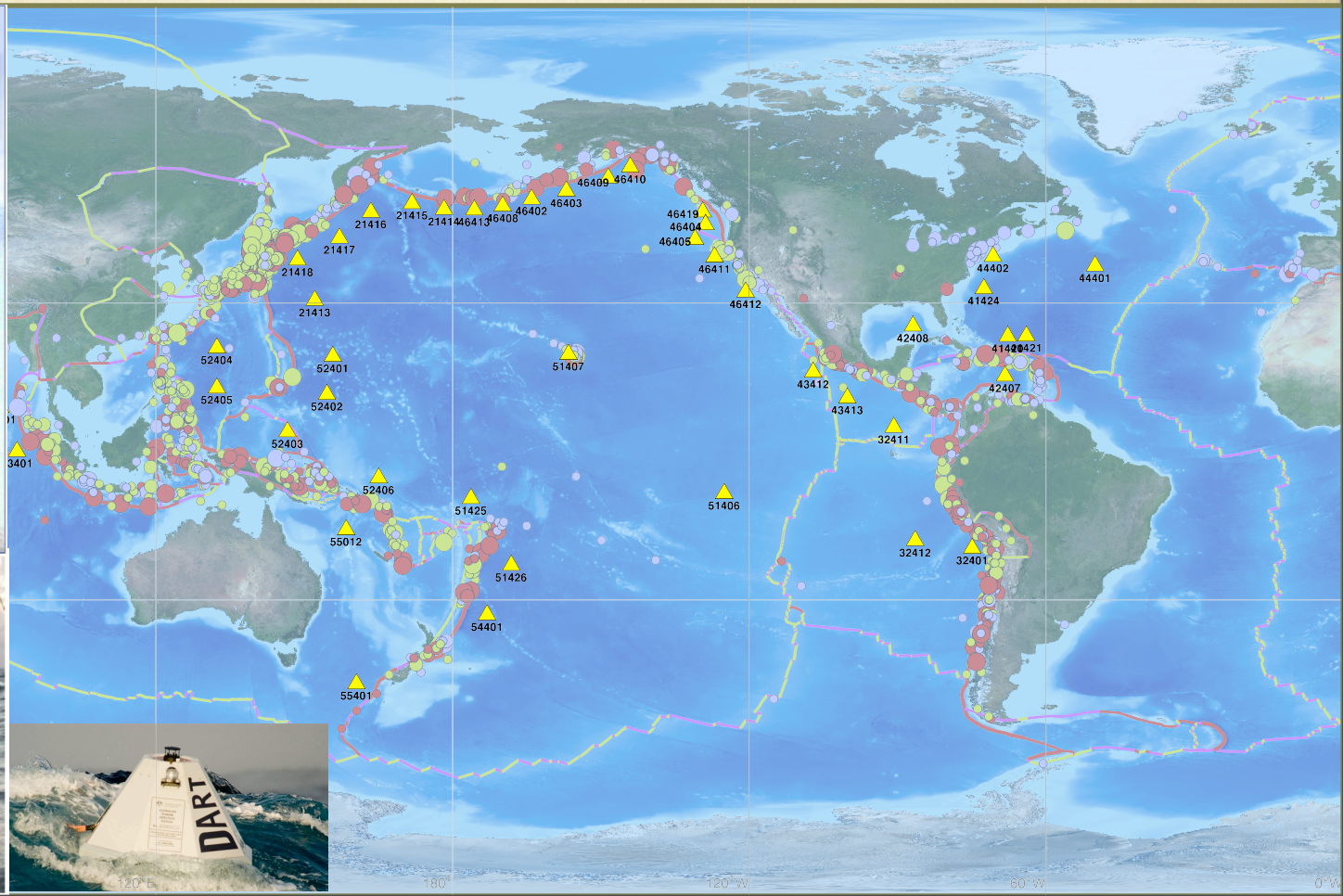
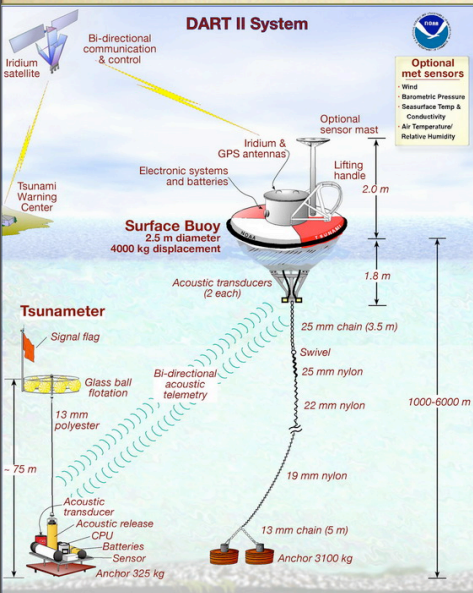




# NOAA Tsunami Forecast

## Detection

### ▲ Tsunameters





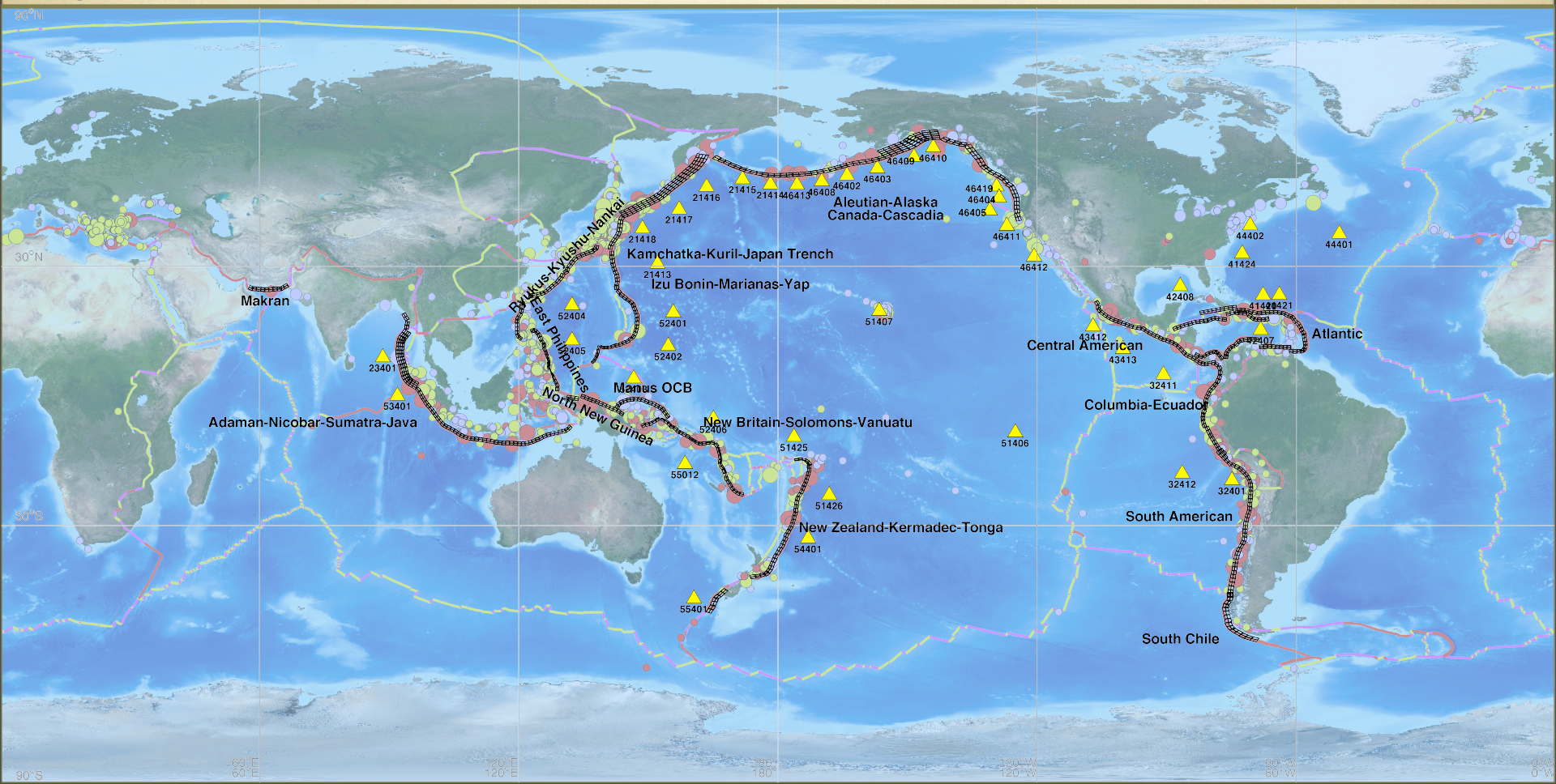
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## Detection

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## Inversion

▣ model database



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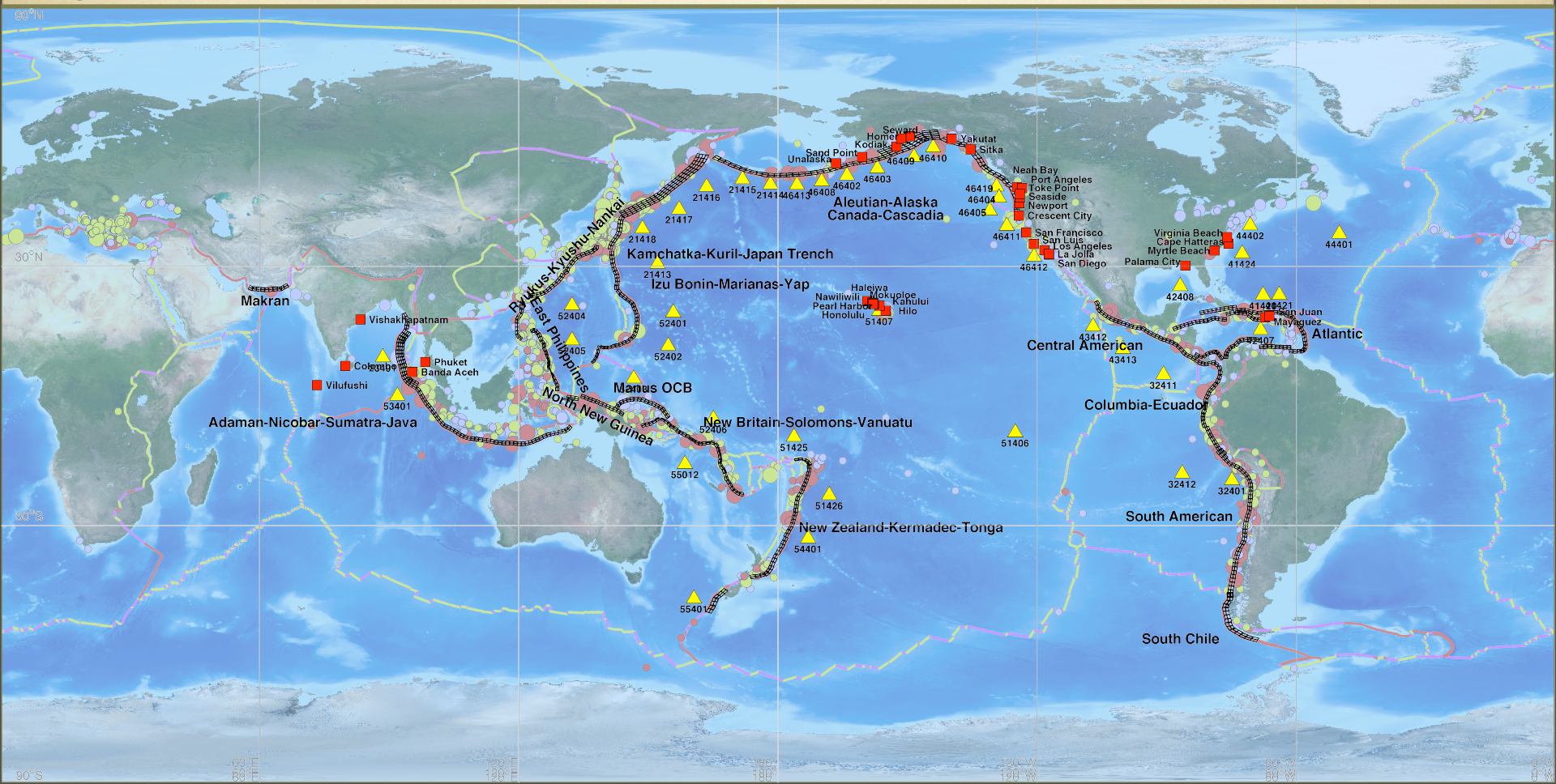
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## Coastal forecast

■ SIM



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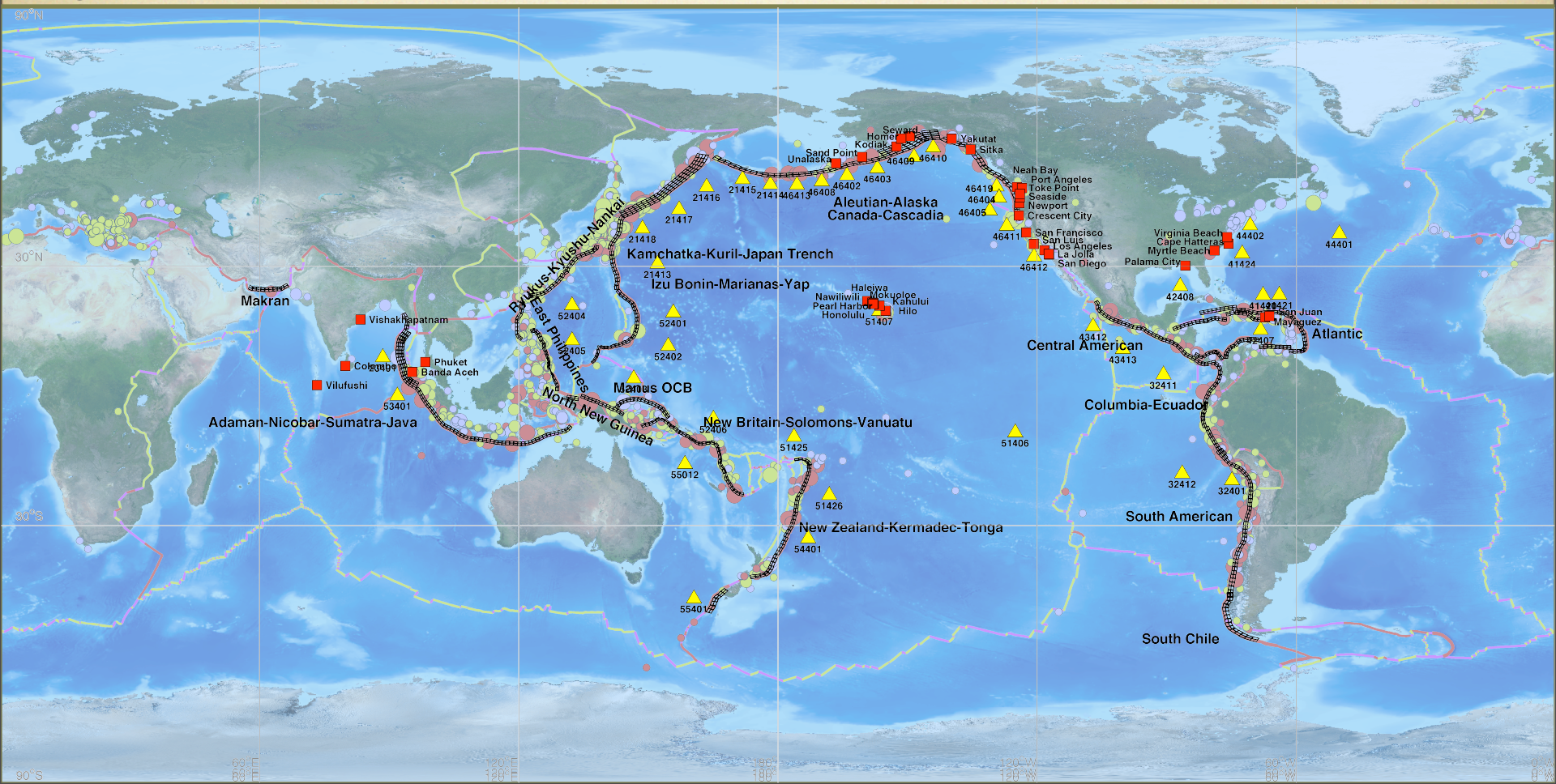
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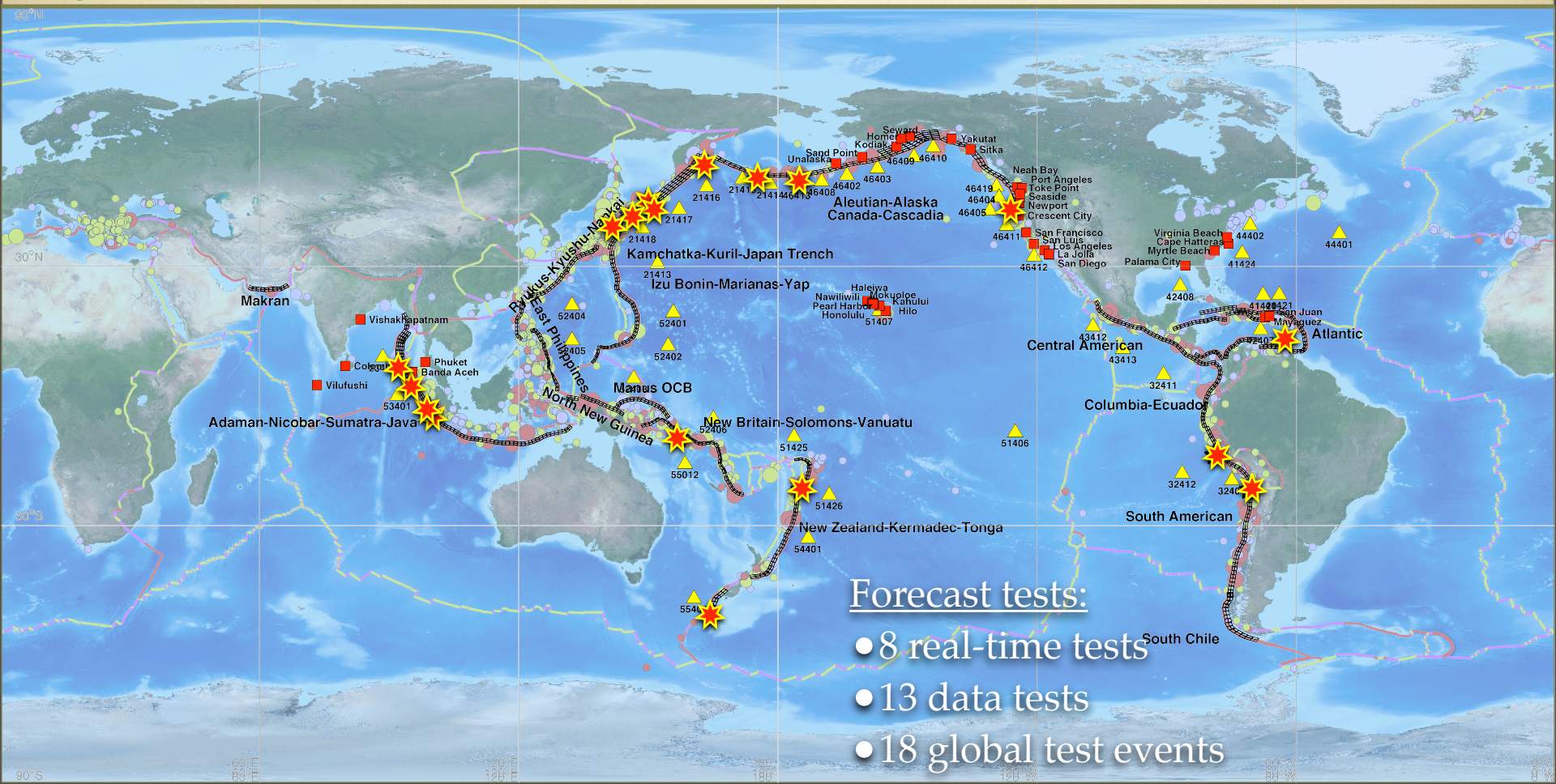
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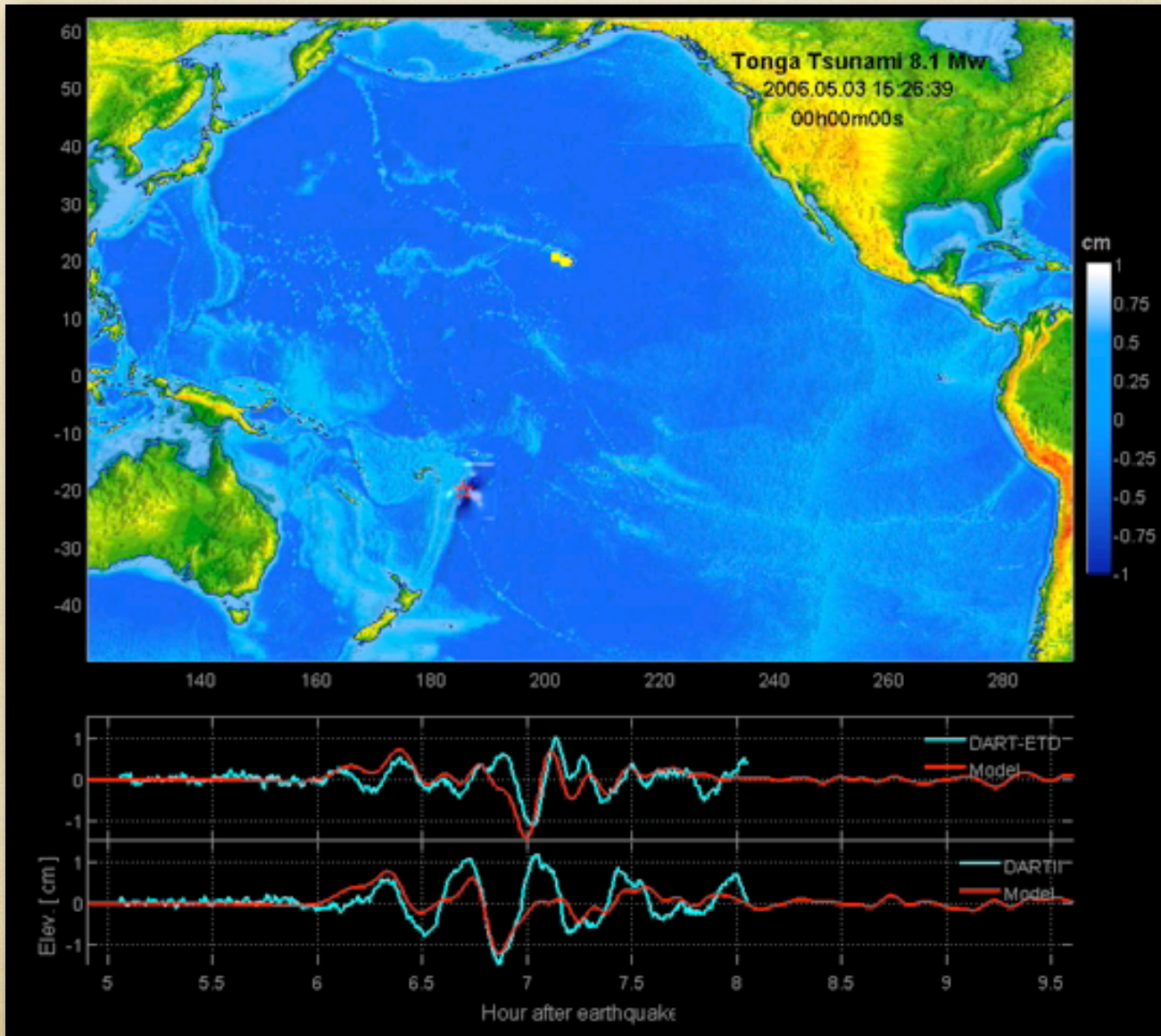
■ SIM



May 3, 2006 Tonga tsunami

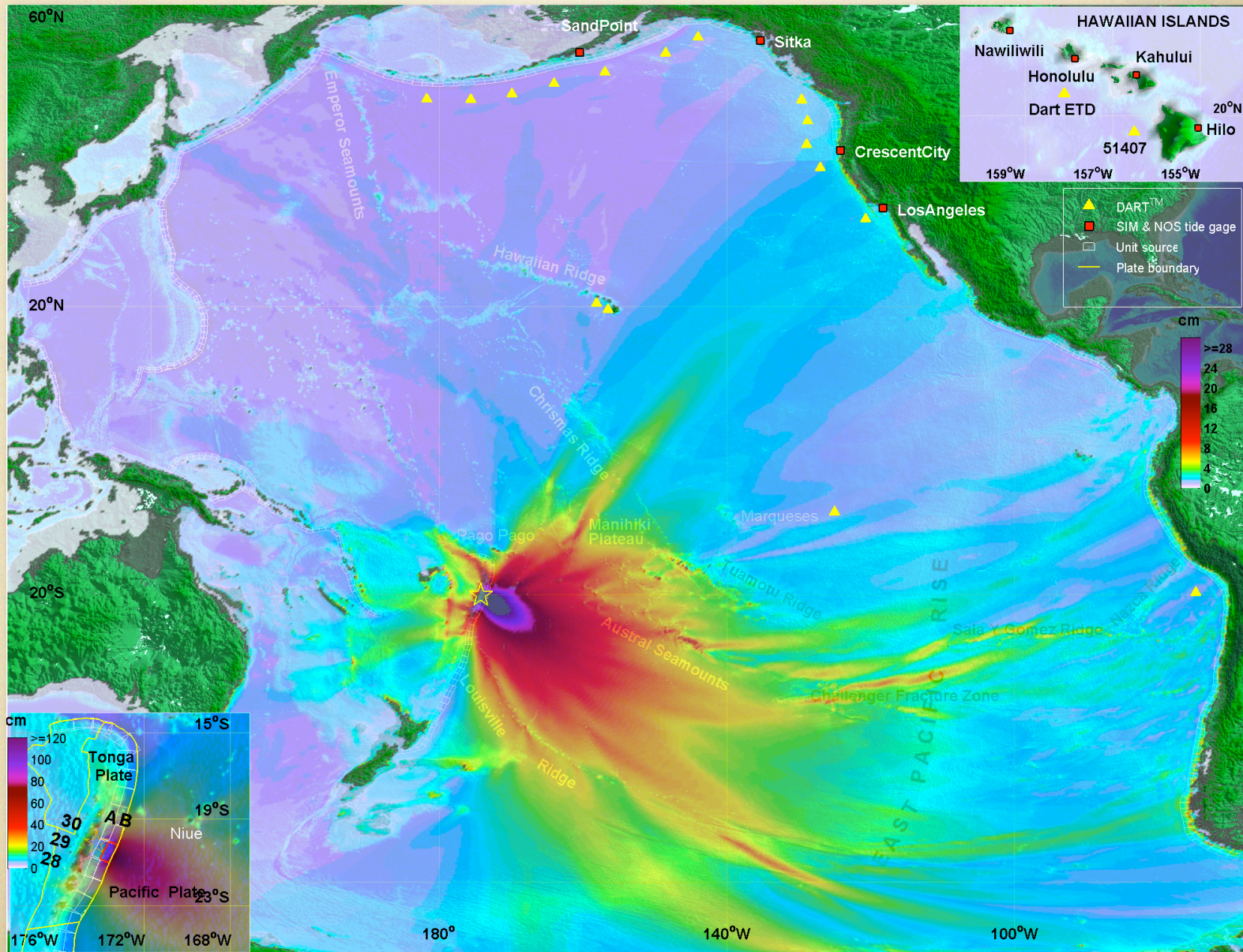


# May 3, 2006 Tonga tsunami

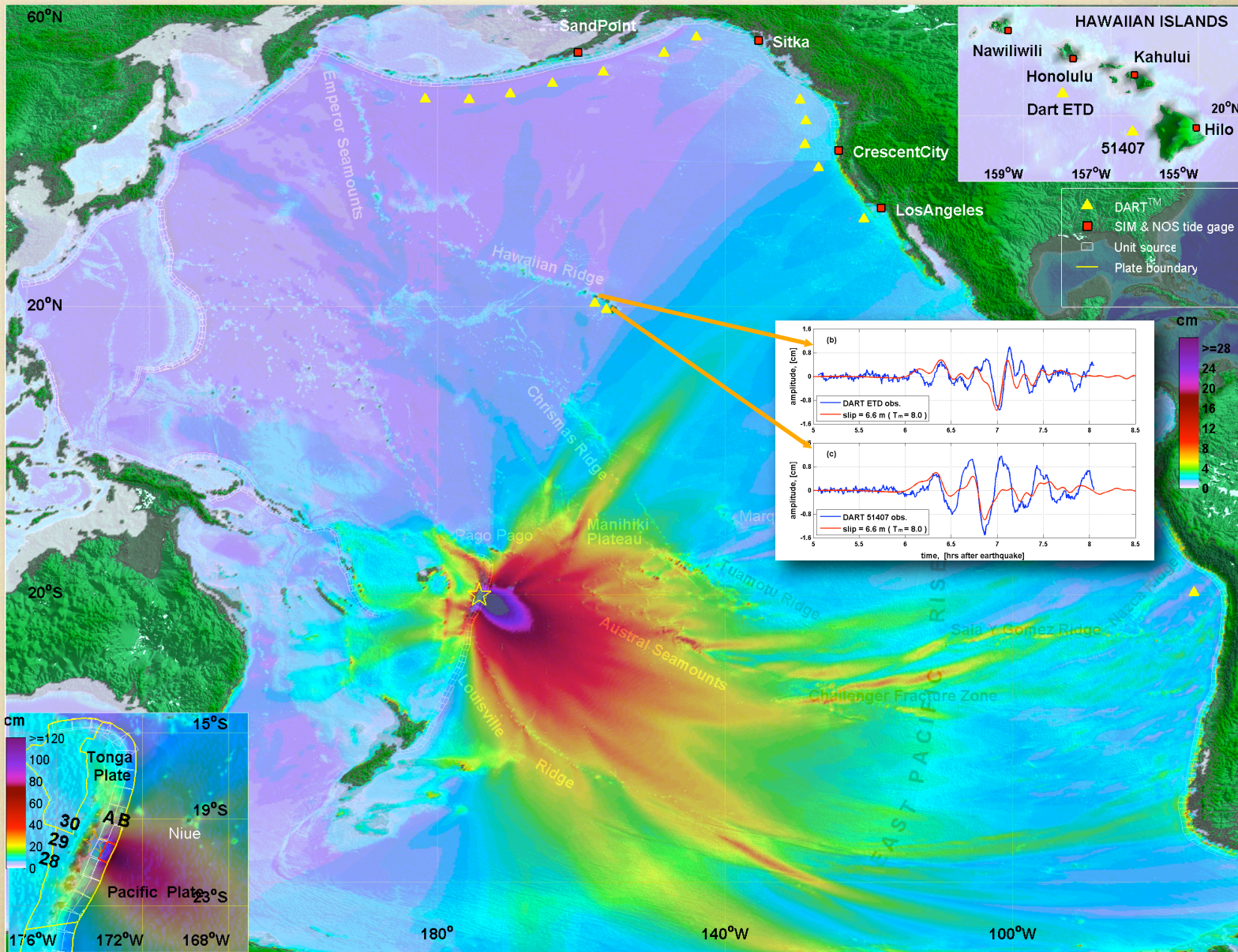




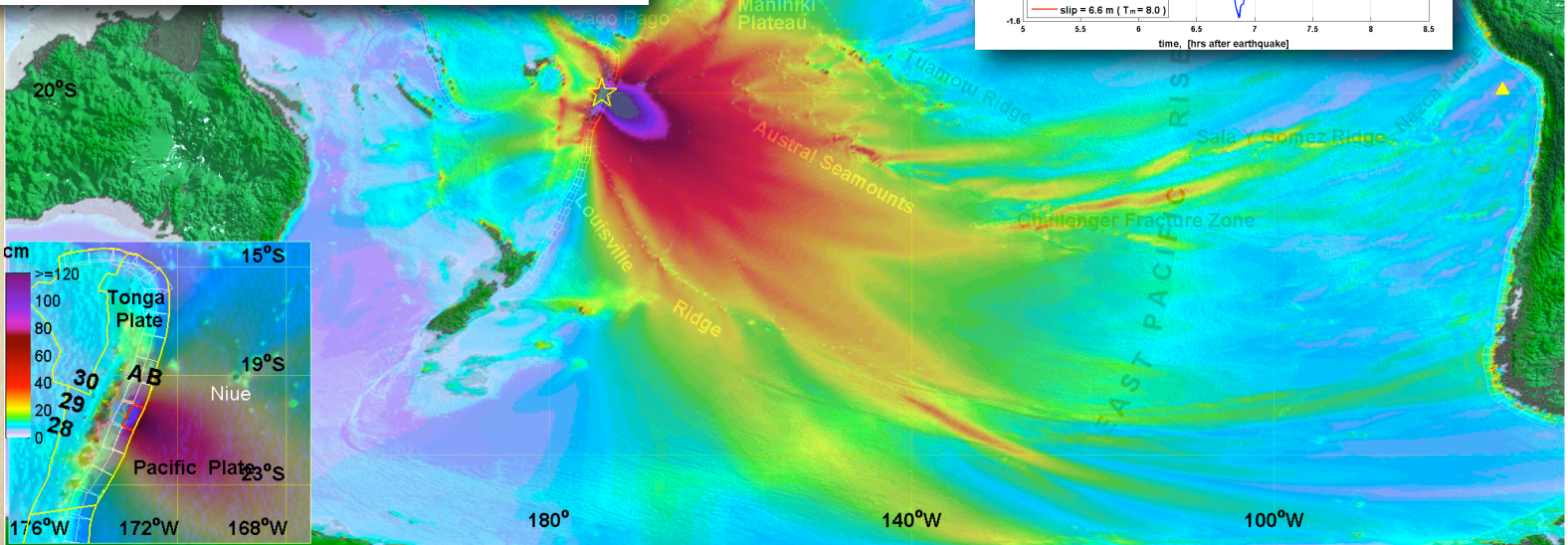
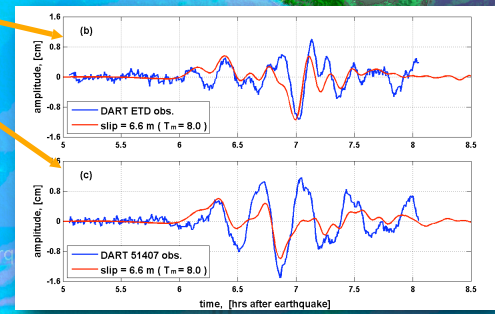
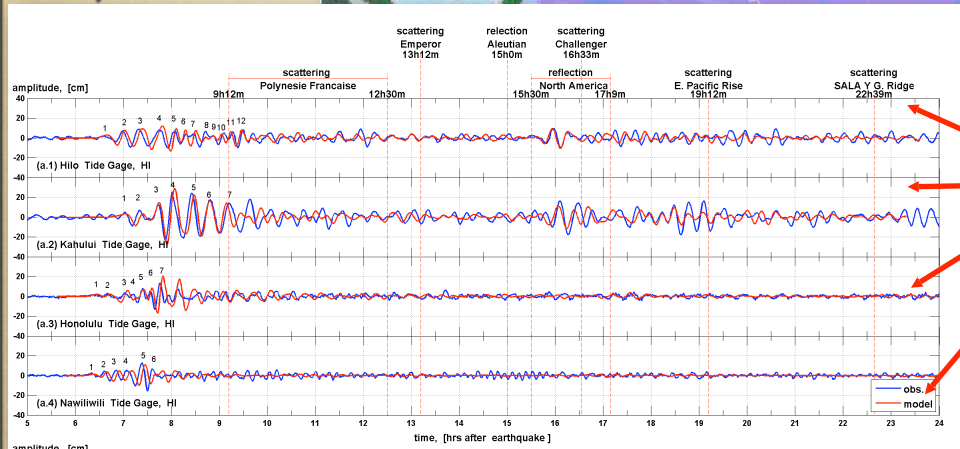
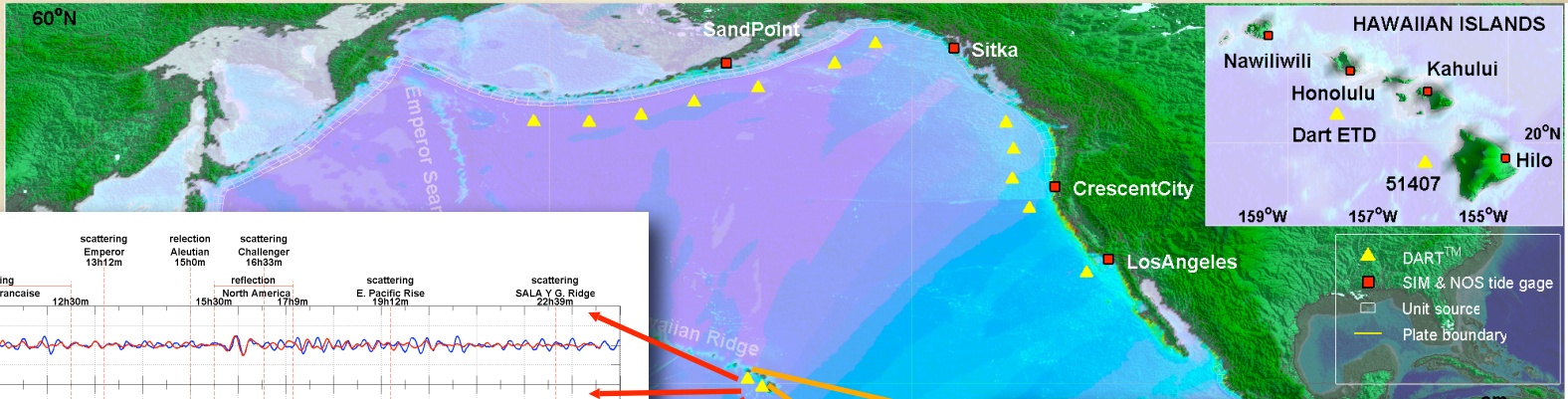
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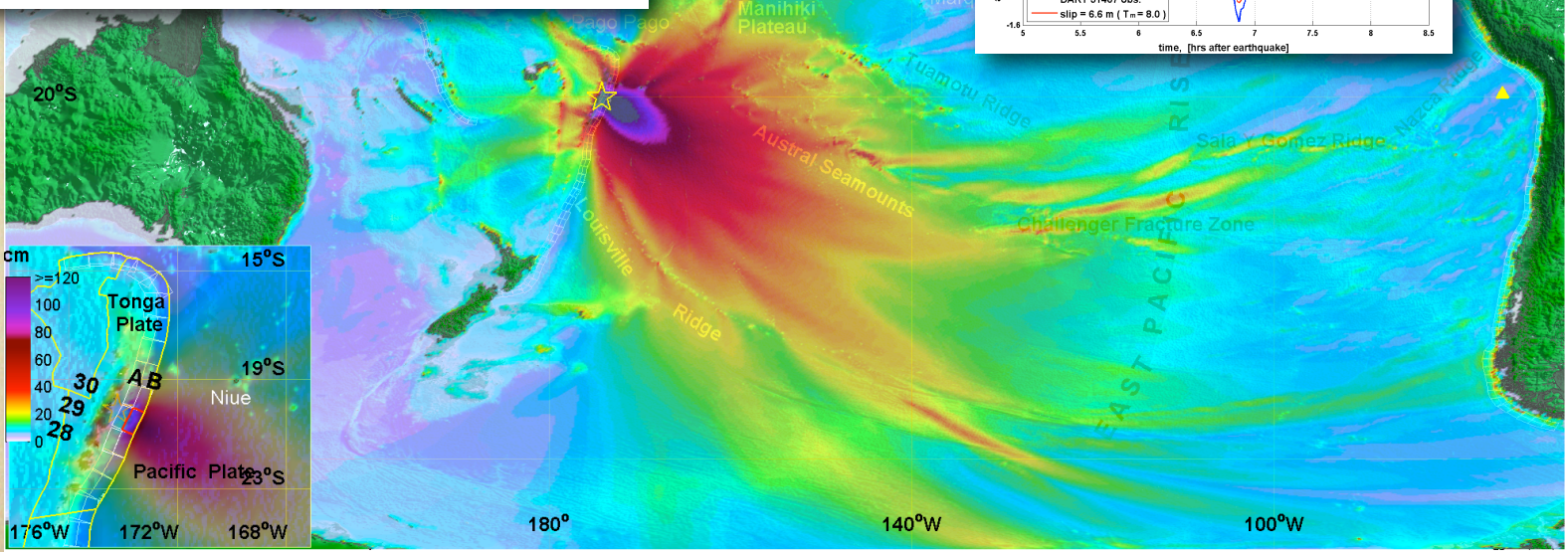
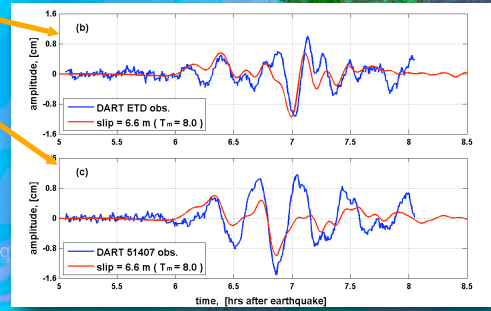
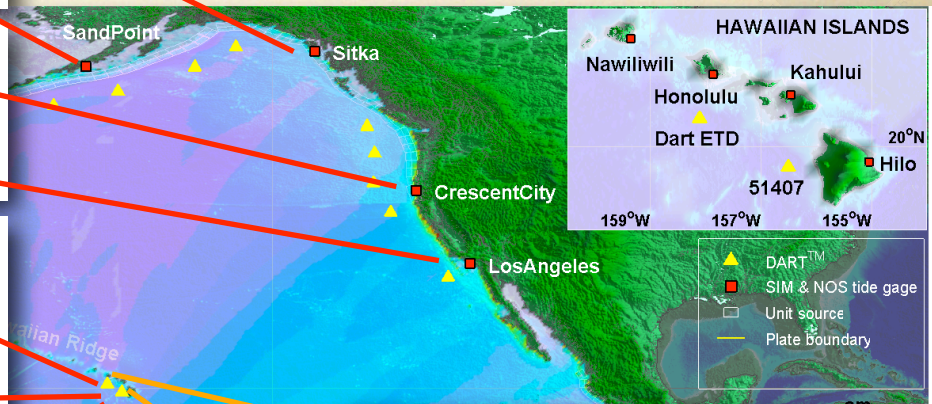
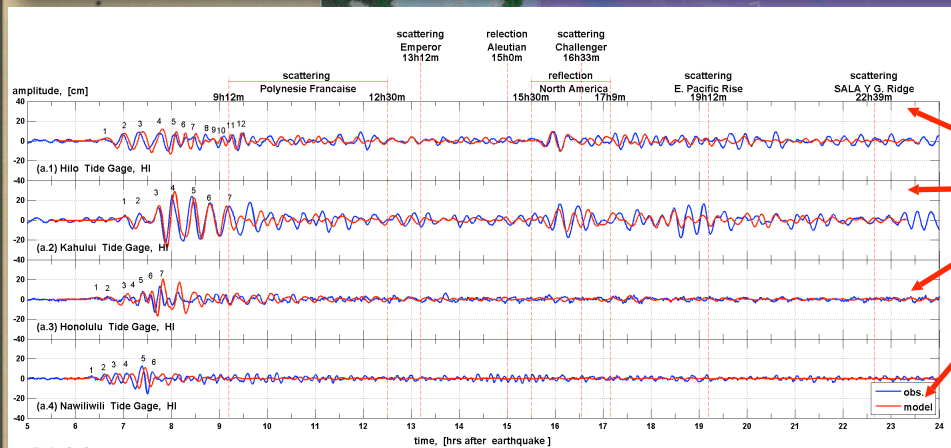
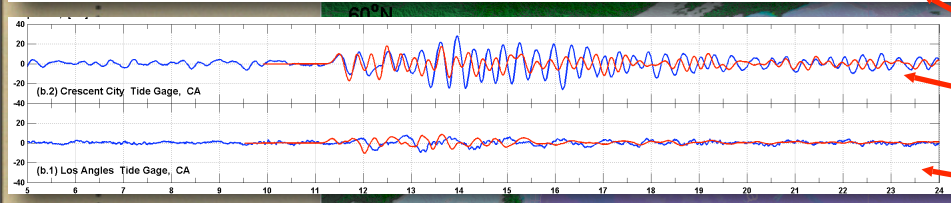
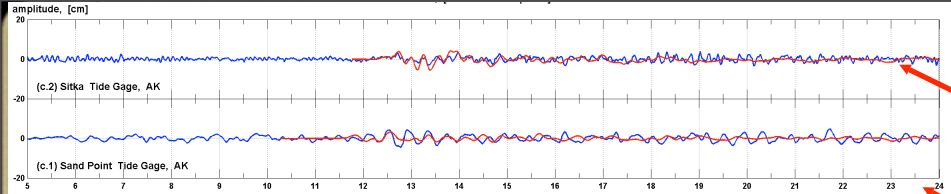
# May 3, 2006 Tonga tsunami



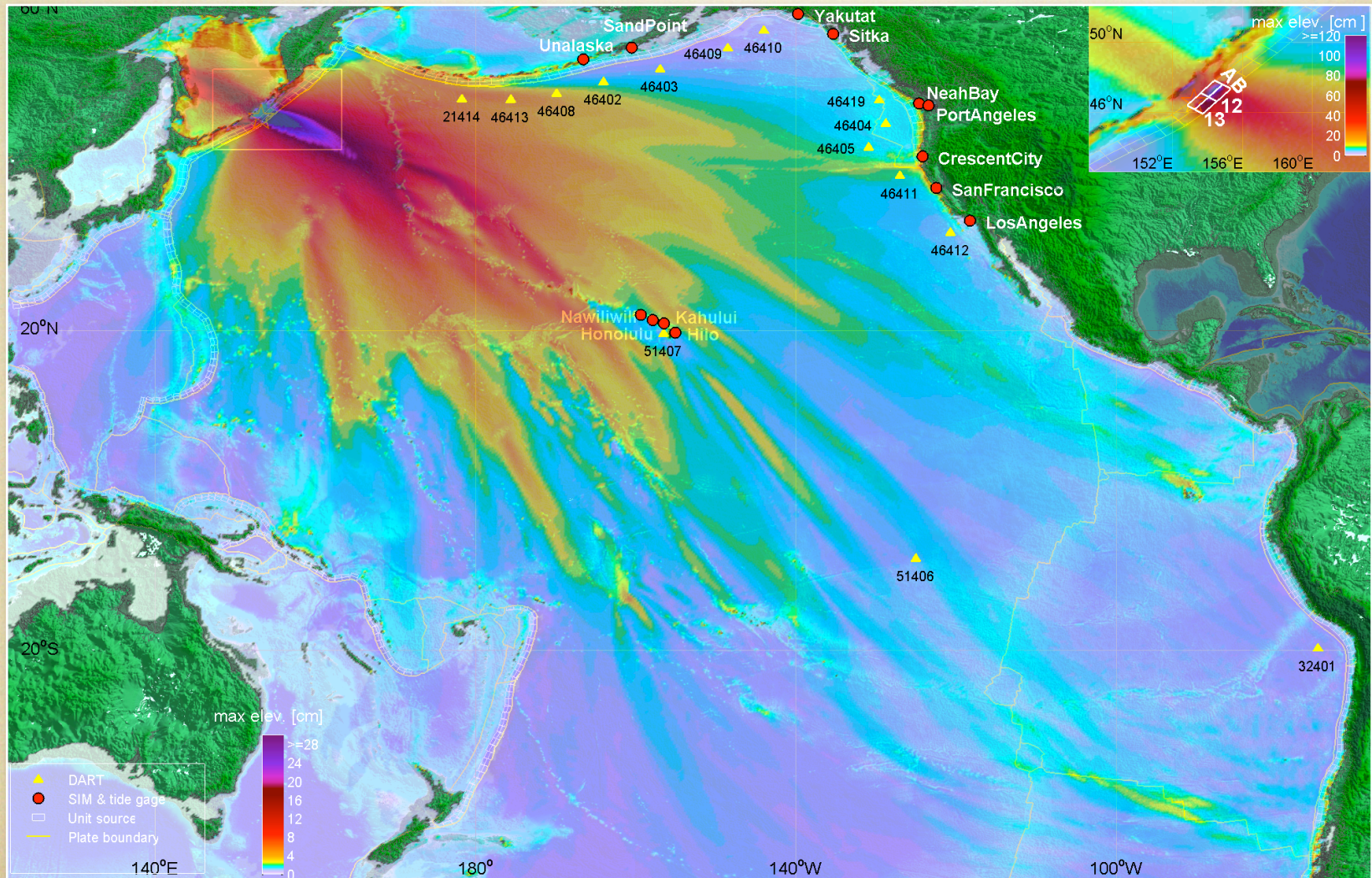
# May 3, 2006 Tonga tsunami



# Tonga tsunami



# The November 15, 2006 Central Kuril Tsunami



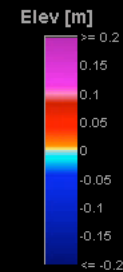
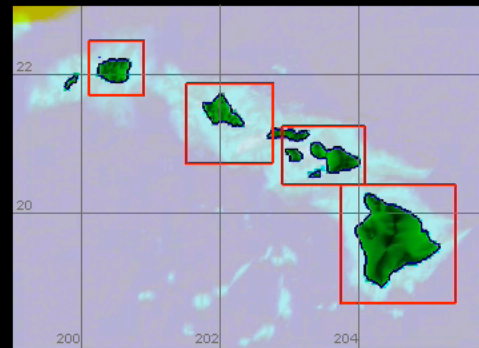
# High-resolution forecast models

Cen. Kuri Tsunami Mw = 8.1

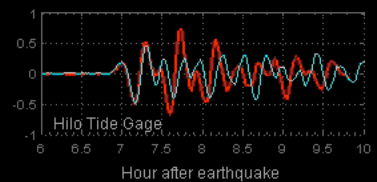
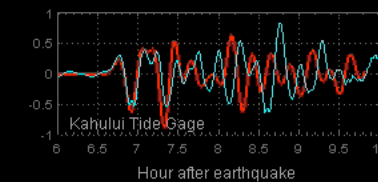
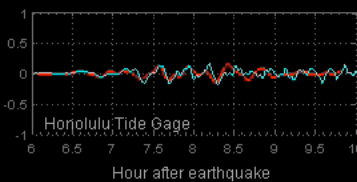
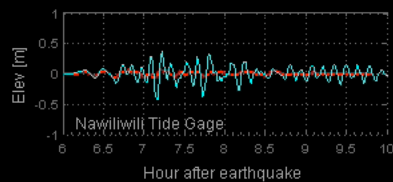
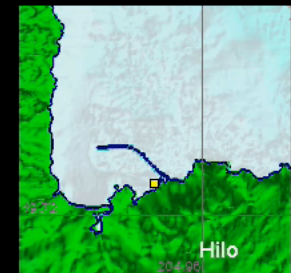
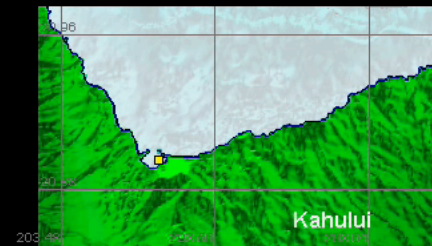
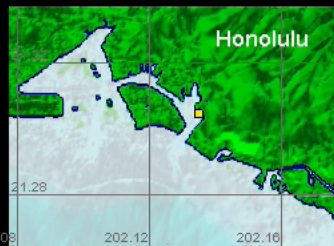
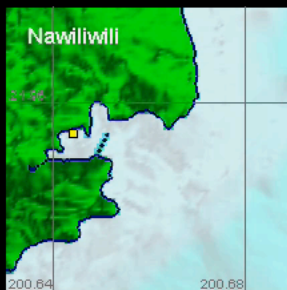
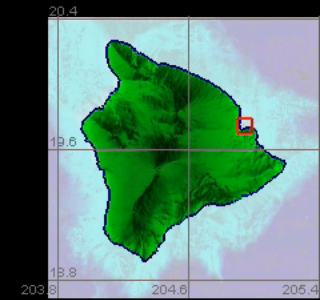
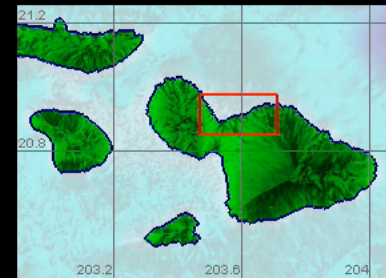
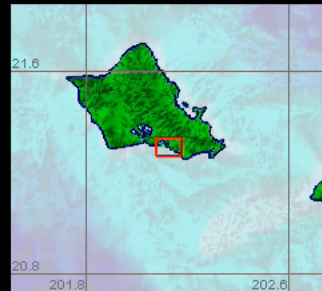
2006.11.15 11:14:16 UTC

05h50m01s

NOAA/PMEL/NCTR



— SIM  
— observation



# Impact of 8 Experimental Forecasts since November 2003



- 0 False Alarms
- 3 evacuations of Hawaii avoided saving approximately \$210M in lost productivity
- 5 early cancellations of warnings reducing time of disruption

# Brief history of tsunami science and warning



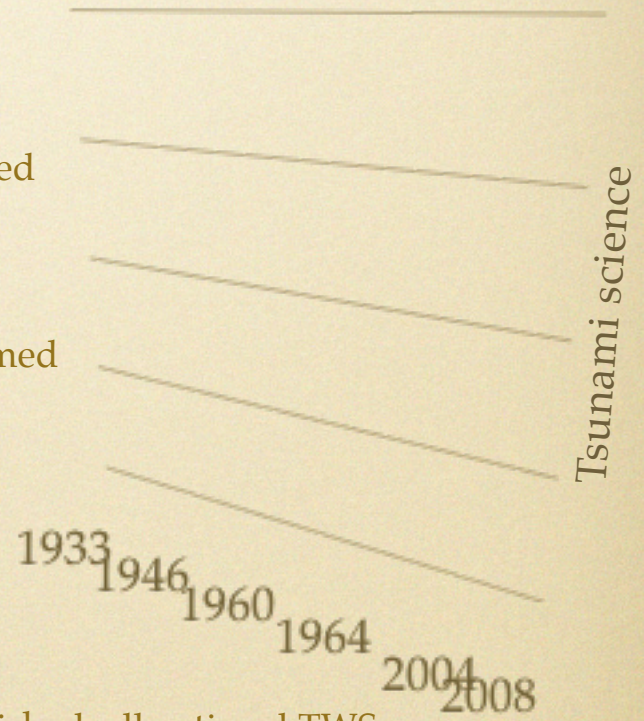
- 1933 Sanriku tsunami
  - beginning of Japan tsunami warning
- 1946 Unimak tsunami
  - US tsunami warning center in Hawaii established
- 1960 Chilean tsunami
  - IOC ITSU and IUGG Tsunami Commission formed
- 1964 Alaska tsunami
  - ATWC established
- 2004 Indonesian Tsunami
  - IO TWS formed, Several TWCs are being established, all national TWSs reforming, building forecast capabilities



# Brief history of tsunami science and warning



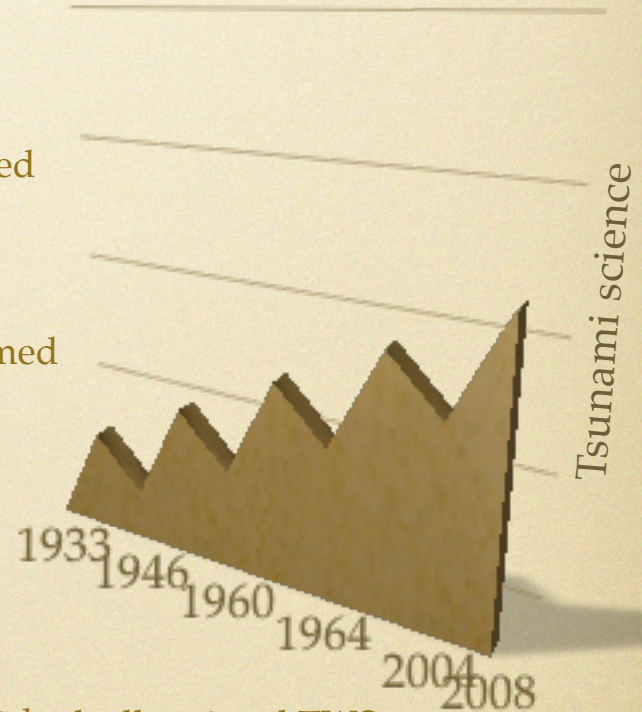
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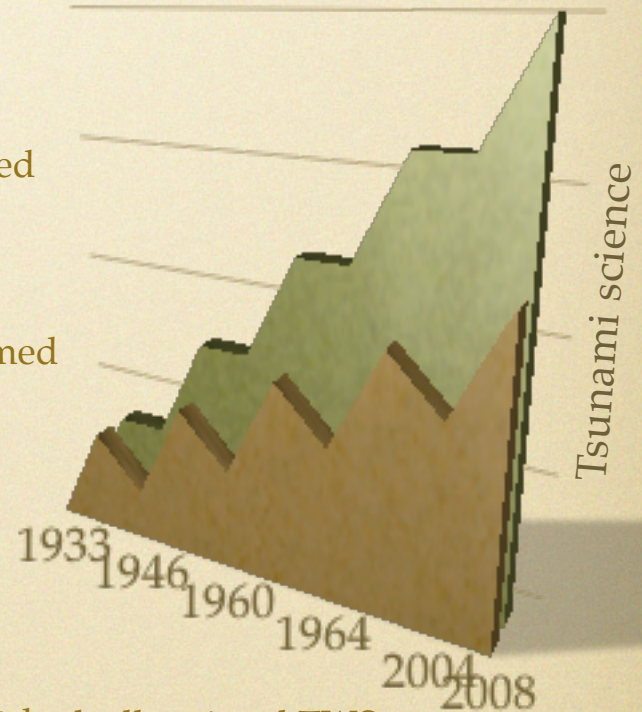
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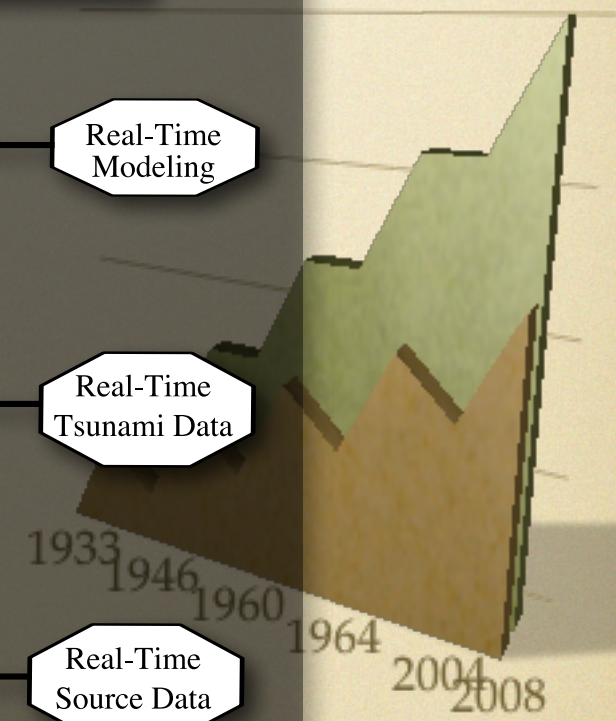
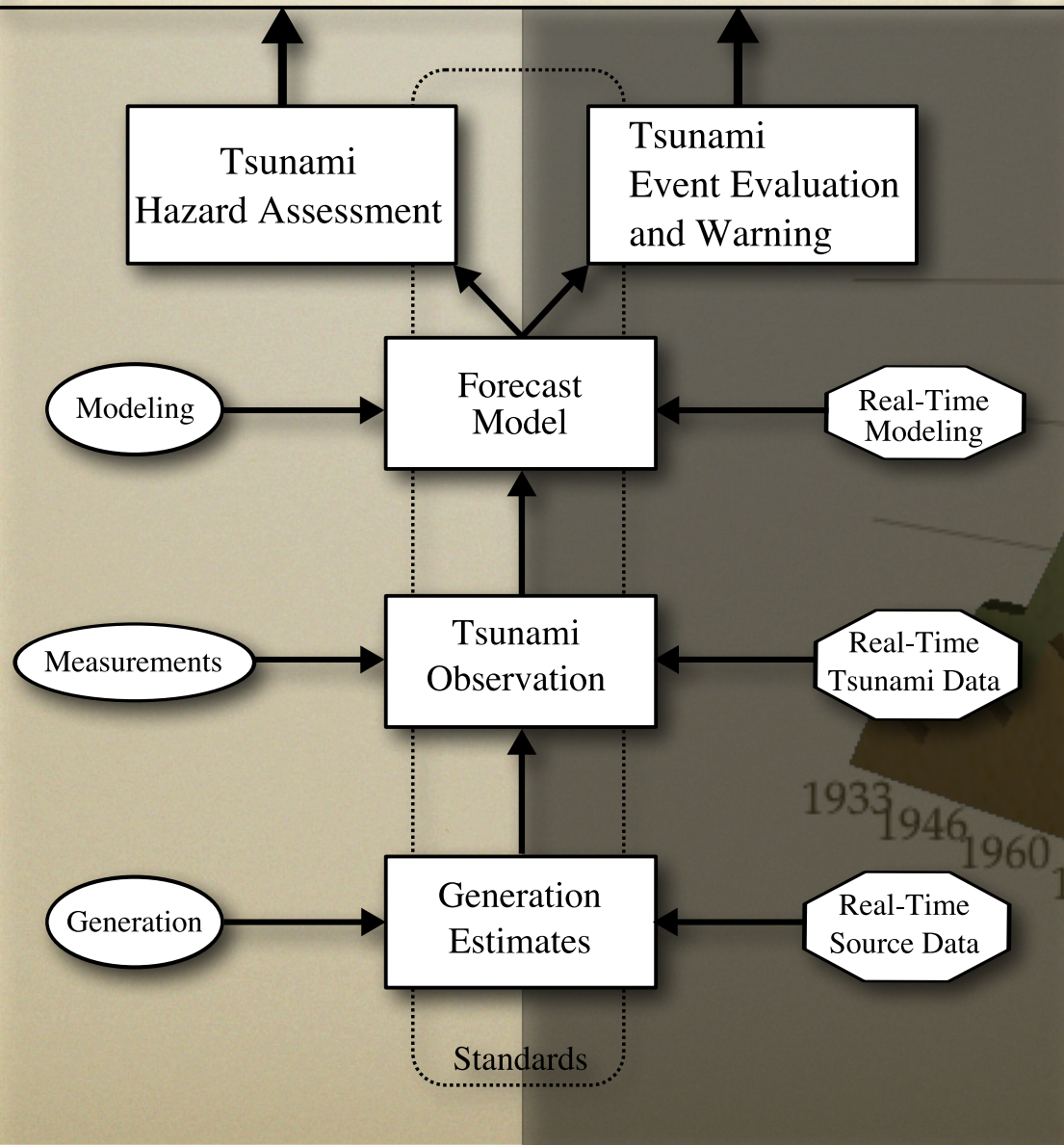


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# Tsunami Resilient Community



# Summary



- Real-time tsunami forecast method has been developed that combines tsunami measurement and modeling into real-time capability to forecast tsunami dynamics at specific coastal locations
- Real-time experimental forecasts show up to 90% amplitude accuracy and high efficiency of the method
- Tsunami Forecast System is being transferred into operations of the U.S. Tsunami Warning System
- International Tsunami Forecast Framework may preserve tsunami science development between tsunami events